

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
GUIDANCE AND COURSE SEQUENCING FORM

Student's Name: _____ Student's ID: _____

Year Entered: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ Advisor's Name: _____

NOTE: The Department advises all students to commit to this sequence and register courses accordingly. Academic credit for life experience or previous work experience is prohibited. Non-Social Work Majors are recommend to complete SWO 200 and SWO 225 before requesting a major change. An interview with the Chairperson is required for all internal students requesting a major change to Social Work. Students are responsible for checking their degree progress report (via mywcu) to ensure they are fulfilling all university degree requirements.

Download University General Education and Distributive Requirements at <https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/>

WRT 120 and WRT 200 level (can place out of WRT 120 – contact ENG)	6 credits of approved Science
3 credits Ethics Designation Course (SWO 320)	6 credits of Behavior Science (For SW 9—PSY, SOC, PSC)
3 credits Math course above 100 levels (104 or 121 recommended)	6 credits of Humanities (For SW –HIS, PHI)
9 Credits Speaking Emphasis (SWO 332, SWO 350, and SWO 495)*	3 credits of ART
3 credits of diverse communities (for SW – SWO 351)	18 credits of Advised Electives (with FYE 17 credits required)
3 credits of interdisciplinary course (for SW – SWO 225)	Students must achieve a minimum of 120 credits to graduate
9 credits of writing emphasis courses (for SW—SWO 300, 351, 495)	SW Students need 2.50 GPA overall for BSW

First Year Experience (FYE) required for all new students and transfer students with less than 24 credits.

Minimum grade of C required for SWO 320, 321, 375, 395, 450, 451, 495, and 496. All other required SWO courses minimum C-

*Transfer students with 40-70 need 6 credits approved speaking emphasis (SE) courses. With 70+ transfer credits, only one 3-credit course is required. All students must complete at least one SE course at the 300 or 400 level. Check to make sure SWO 332, SWO 495, and SWO 496 are SE Approved courses if not most students will need to complete 9 credits of SE. Check with your academic advisor.

First Year: Pre-Candidacy - Fall Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 200	Introduction to Social Welfare	3		
SWO 225	Race Relations (I and J)	3		
FYE 100	First-Year Experience (Waived for transfer students with 24+ credits)	4		
WRT 120	English Composition Effective Writing I	3		
FLG I (SPA 101)	Foreign Language (Spanish recommended.) Spanish for Health Care SPA 118 recommended). **	3		

** Students may enroll in 1 or 2 foreign language culture clusters (must be SAME language) to meet the foreign language requirement.

First Year: Pre-Candidacy - Spring Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 220	Introduction to Generalist Practice	3		
SWO 300	Family Systems (W)	3		
PSY 100	PSY 100 required	3		
FLG II (SPA 102)	Foreign Language (Must be the SAME language and one level up from first FLG course) or complete second Culture Cluster in the SAME language as Culture Cluster 1.	3		
WRT 200 Level	WRT 200, 204, 205, 206, 208, or 230	3		

Second Year: Pre-Candidacy - Fall Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 332	Social Welfare Policies and Services	3		
SWO 350	Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	3		
PSC	Select approved Political Science Course (PSC 100 recommended)	3		
Science #1	Select approved science class from CHE, CSC, ESS, or PHY	3		
HIS	Select approved HIS course (HIS 150 Recommended)	3		

Second Year: Pre-Candidacy - Spring Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 320	Generalist Practice I (E)	3		
SWO 351	Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (W) (J)	3		
Science #2	Select approved science class from CHE, CSC, ESS, or PHY	3		
SOC	Select approved Sociology course (SOC 100 or SOC 240 recommended)	3		
Advised Elective #1	Advised Elective	3		

Third Year: Apply for Candidacy by September 15th - Fall Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 321	Generalist Practice II	3		
ART	Select approved Art, Cinematography, Dance, Photography, or Theater	3		
MAT	Select any math course based on placement (MAT 104 or MAT 121 recommended)	3		
PHI	Select approved Philosophy course (PHI 180 recommended)	3		
Advised Elective #2	If interested in CWEB, enroll in the Child Welfare Elective	3		

Third Year: Professional Core - Spring Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 375	Field Experience I	6		
SWO 395	Junior Seminar	3		
Advised Elective #3	Advised Elective	3		
Advised Elective #4	Advised Elective	3		

Fourth Year: Professional Core - Fall Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 431	Methods of Social Inquiry	3		
SWO 450	Field Experience II	6		
SWO 495	Senior Seminar I (W)	3		
Advised Elective #5	Advised Elective	3		

Fourth Year: Professional Core - Spring Semester

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 451	Field Experience III	3		
SWO 496	Senior Seminar II	6		
SWO 432	Advanced Policy Practice	3		
Advised Elective #6	Depending on transfer credits and FYE, student may take a 2 or 3 credit elective to fulfill the 120 credits required for graduation	2 or 3		

SOCIAL WORK ELECTIVES

Courses	Term(s) Offered	Credits	Term	Grade
SWO 421 – Mental Health and Addictions		3		
SWO 423 – Child Welfare Practice and Policy		3		
SWO 491 – Human Sexuality Concepts for Social Workers		3		

I = Interdisciplinary J = Diverse Communities W = Writing Emphasis E = Ethics

Students may take social work courses concurrently while applying for candidacy.

- Students cannot fulfill a general education requirement and interdisciplinary with the same course.

Chairperson's Signature

Date

Advised Student's Signature

Date

West Chester University
BSW Program Academic Plan for Degree Completion

Student's Name: _____
 Student ID: _____
 Semester/Year Entered: _____ Academic Advisor: _____

Fall	Spring	Summer	
Fall	Spring	Summer	Outstanding General Education Courses
Fall	Spring	Summer	Outstanding Speaking Emphasis Courses
Fall	Spring	Summer	Outstanding Foreign Language Courses
Fall	Spring	Summer	Outstanding Social Work Courses
Fall	Spring	Summer	Outstanding Electives

I have met with my advisor and I understand this academic ladder as it has been presented. I understand that I must follow the courses in the sequence above in order to apply for candidacy and graduate on time. At any time, I may meet with my Academic Advisor to adjust this plan as necessary. I am aware that I must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.50 in order to remain in the Undergraduate Social Work Program. I understand that if my cumulative GPA falls below 2.50 for two consecutive semesters, I will schedule a meeting with the Chairperson to request a change of major.

Student's Signature	Date	Academic Advisor/Chairperson	Date
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WCU Undergraduate Social Work Program
Minimum Grade Point Average Policy
AY 2019- 2020

The Undergraduate Social Work Program at West Chester University (WCU) of Pennsylvania offers the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Degree at the West Chester Campus and Philadelphia Campus. The BSW Degree is a professional degree that provides graduates with employment opportunities as generalist social workers. The BSW Degree also prepares students for the advanced Master of Social Work (MSW) Degree. The BSW Program at WCU is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

To remain in good standing, social work majors (students) must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.50 every semester in addition to earning a minimum of a "C" letter grade for SWO 320, 321, 375, 395, 450, 451, 495, and SWO 496. In the event that a student's GPA falls below the minimum 2.50, student will be granted one semester to increase their GPA to a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher. The current policy states that when students maintain a cumulative GPA below 2.50 for two consecutive semesters, they will be provided with the opportunity to pursue another major of study.

Students review their academic progress and academic standing every semester with their Academic Advisors during the mandatory academic advising session. Any potential or existing challenges to meeting the minimum requirements to remain in the BSW Program must be addressed with students' Academic Advisors immediately. When the Academic Advisor is unavailable, students are asked to contact the Chairperson of the BSW Program in Anderson Hall Room 404A. The Academic Advisor, student, and/or Chairperson may initiate this communication to address matters of GPA.

The BSW Program at WCU provides students with two field practicums. The first is completed during students' junior spring semester and the second field practicum is completed over two semesters (fall and spring) of students' final enrollment year. To be considered for these field placements, students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50. When students do not have the minimum GPA, they are encouraged to immediately meet with their Academic Advisor and/or the Chairperson of the Undergraduate Social Work Department to identify a plan for success. Students without the minimum 2.50 GPA will not be granted permission to proceed with field practicum.

Any questions regarding this policy can be addressed with students' Academic Advisors or the Chairperson, currently Dr. Pablo Arriaza in Anderson Hall Room 404A in West Chester or Philadelphia Office 26 and/or or at parriaza@wcupa.edu

ATTESTATION

1. I have read the above minimum cumulative grade point average policy for the Undergraduate Social Work Program and a copy has been given to me. _____
2. I have been provided with the opportunity to ask questions regarding this policy. _____
3. I understand that if my cumulative GPA falls below a 2.50, I will be granted one (1) semester to increase my cumulative GPA to 2.50. _____
4. I understand that if I have a cumulative GPA below 2.50 for two consecutive semesters, I will meet with my Academic Advisor and/or the Chairperson to pursue another major. _____
5. I understand that I must have a minimum cumulative 2.50 GPA to begin field practicum. _____

Student Academic

Advisor/Chairperson

Date