

Why Study Social Work at Grand Valley?

The social work profession deals with a variety of conditions that limit people's ability to function. Professional social workers try to help individuals and groups overcome these limitations and become well-adjusted, contributing members of society. The social work program provides a foundation curriculum in a high-quality learning environment that prepares students for success in the community social work concentration. Graduates:

- Exhibit a commitment to enhancing social justice, promoting human rights, ensuring the dignity and worth of all individuals, practicing with integrity, upholding ethics, incorporating diversity into their practice, and advancing the profession's reputation and knowledge base.
- Possess the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to create and/or identify and acquire new information about professional social work practice as such information becomes available throughout their careers.
- Are competent users of technologies and proficient consumers of training opportunities that support their lifelong professional development.

The School of Social Work at Grand Valley State University is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Step One: Declaring Your Major Select Social Work—BSW

Important notes about your major:

- This program is considered a secondary admission program, meaning that you must meet certain criteria before you are eligible for admission (or candidacy) into the Social Work program.
- The formal application process to be admitted into the program is normally completed in the Winter semester prior to the junior year.
- Program admission only occurs in the fall semester.

Step Two:

Choosing Your Classes

To be eligible for Candidacy students must have:

- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.500 on a 4.000 scale.
- Completion of all General Education Foundation categories, except Mathematical Sciences
- Complete the School of Social Work Candidacy Course Requirements, while meeting the following criteria:
 - Earn a minimum grade of C (2.0) in all courses (excluding MTH 110),
 - Earn at least a 2.500 between all candidacy courses;
 - Not have repeated a course more than once.

Candidacy Course Requirements
BIO 104: Biology for the 21 st Century
PLS 102: American Government and Politics
PSY 101: Introductory Psychology
PSY 303: Psychopathology or PSY 324: Developmental Psychopathology
SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology
SW 150: Human Needs in a Complex Society
SW 300: Pluralism in American Society
Social Problems/Social Inequality Elective: BMS 222: Introduction to Public Health CJ 101: Justice and Society ECO 210: Introduction to Macroeconomics ECO 211: Introduction to Microeconomics SOC 105: Social Problems SOC 252: Sociology of Drug Use and Abuse SOC 286: Sociology of Health Care SOC 315: Social Class Inequality* SOC 381: Class, Race, Gender, & Sexuality CJ 320/WGS 320*
MTH 110 Proficiency Required

Plans shown are examples of the first year schedule. Courses can be taken in either semester based on availability & pre-requisites.

MTH097 Math Placement

MTH 097 (fall or winter depending on availability)	4	MTH 110 (if MTH 097 in fall) or PLS 102*	3-4
WRT 098 (if selected) or PSY 101	3-4	WRT150 (if not in fall) or PLS 102*	3-4
BIO 104* (satisfies FND/LS-lab)	4	Physical Science without a lab	3
SW 150* (satisfies FND/SB&S)	3	SOC 101* (satisfies FND/SB&S)	3
General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST) <i>(if space in schedule)</i>	3	General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST) <i>(if space in schedule)</i>	3

MTH110 Math Placement

SW 150* (satisfies FND/SB&S)	3	PSY 101* (satisfies FND/SB&S)	3
WRT 098 (if selected) or PSY 101	3-4	WRT 150 (if not in fall) or PLS 102*	3-4
Physical Science without a lab	3	BIO 104* (satisfies FND/LS-lab)	4
General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST)	3	General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST)	3
General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST)	3	SOC 101* <i>(if space in schedule)</i>	3

MTH110 Waived or Advanced Waiver Math Placement

WRT 098 (if selected) or PLS 102 *	3-4	WRT 150 (if not in fall) or General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST)	3-4
SW 150* (satisfies FND/SB&S)	3	SOC 101	3
PSY 101 (Satisfies FND/SB&S)	3	General Education Foundation (Art, P&L, or HST)	3
Physical Science without a lab	3	BIO 104 (satisfies FND/LS-lab)	4
General Education Category (Art, P&L, or HST)	3	SW Candidacy Course from chart (<i>if space in schedule</i>)	3

Social Work

Honors Program Participants

You will complete your 6 credit honors sequence each semester in place of some of the suggested general education and writing requirements. Any other spaces you have left open should be filled with other social work program admission courses (see reverse side) or electives toward a minor.

Please note: Candidacy course requirements must be met even if the general education category is unnecessary due to honors program participation.

AP/Dual Enrollment

- The priority in your first two years should be the admission criteria for the School of Social Work (see reverse side)
- Any open spaces can be filled with other general education requirements (STA215 or World Perspectives,) or electives toward a minor.
- Upper level SW core courses will not be taken until formal admission to the program occurs, usually in the junior year.

A Note About Math Placement

It's RECOMMENDED that you complete MTH110 in the first year if possible as you must be able to demonstrate proficiency prior to admission into the BSW program

***These courses must be completed with a C or better grade for entrance to the School of Social Work.**