



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES CERTIFICATE

The Child and Family Services Certificate is a 15-credit post-baccalaureate certificate program focusing on the knowledge, values, and skills necessary for practice with children and families. The core curriculum is built around the foundation year and elective courses of The University of Maine Master in Social Work (MSW) program and utilizes distance education technology and off-site locations to meet the needs of a statewide audience.

This certificate can benefit you if you work in a human service agency such as a mental health center, in child welfare, in a child and family services agency or one of the many other social service settings. If you are licensed in the State of Maine, you may also submit certificate courses as part of Board's continuing education requirements. The 15 credit certificate program is also an excellent opportunity to learn more about The University of Maine MSW program by taking advanced social work courses.

All courses taken through the Child and Family Services Certificate program are recorded on your transcript and credits earned can be applied towards the MSW degree if the student is accepted into the School of Social Work. (Note: A maximum of three electives can be applied to the 63-credit MSW program.) Enrolling in the Child and Family Services Certificate program does not guarantee admission into the matriculated MSW program. For further information e-mail socialwork@umit.maine.edu or call 581-2389.

COURSES THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO THE 15-CREDIT CERTIFICATE

The certificate is made up of three required courses (SWK 540, SWK 550, and SWK 580) and two unspecified courses that can be chosen from the foundation and elective courses listed below. The required courses are preceded with an asterisk.

SOCIAL WORK FOUNDATION COURSES:

These four course are regularly offered at the Orono campus, The University of Maine Hutchinson Center (FHC) in Belfast and at the Bangor Department of Health and Human (DHHS) office (broadcast to Augusta, Houlton and Machias DHHS offices). Please contact the administrative assistant in the School of Social Work if you are interested in taking classes. Phone: 581-2389 or e-mail: socialwork@umit.maine.edu

***SWK 540 Social Welfare Policy and Issues for Generalist Practitioners**

Analysis of the provision of social services and the interrelatedness of practice and policy analysis with emphasis on dimensions of choice in social welfare policy and the accompanying major issues.

Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 Credits. (required for certificate)

***SWK 550 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I.**

Examines research and theories related to normative life span development as influenced by age, gender, social class, social structures, oppression and other environmental factors. Uses systems theory and person-in-environment construct as the analytical framework. Considers implications for social work practice and social welfare policy. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. (required for certificate) 3 credits

SWK 591 Social Work Research I

Integration of social work theory, practice and research including problem formulation, research design, ethical concerns and protocols for protection of human subjects. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 credits

SWK 650 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II.

Examines research and theories related to normative development of families, small groups and communities. Explores the impact of age, gender, social class, social structures, oppression and other environmental factors. Examines social structures and context of organizations and institutions and their impact on individuals, families, small group and communities. Considers implications for social work practice and social welfare policy. Prerequisite: SWK 550 or permission. 3 credits

SOCIAL WORK ELECTIVES

These courses are periodically taught at the Orono campus, the FHC in Belfast, and/ or as compressed video distance courses throughout the University of Maine System.

***SWK 580 Adult and Child Psychopathology**

Overview of DSMIV, gender differences in mental illness, current conceptions of serious mental illness, impact of psychiatric labeling and stigma on individuals and families. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 credits. (required for certificate)

SWK 571 Assessment and Intervention of Trauma in Social Work Practice

Explains current research and controversies in the area of psychobiology of trauma, memory, dissociation, developmental impacts, diagnosis and treatment. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 credits.

SWK 575 Family Therapy in Social Work Practice I

Overview of models of family therapy for social work practice. Emphasis on assessment and intervention with families, children and couples. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 credits

SWK 576 Family Therapy in Social Work Practice II

Emphasis on brief solution-focused and narrative models of family therapy in social work practice. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 credits

SWK 577 Group Strategies in Health/Mental Health

Using a combination of cognitive and experiential learning, students receive a solid understanding of how to initiate group work practice in professional settings in such varied situations as: teaching,

team-meetings, psychoeducation issues in health care, workshops, communities, counseling and psychotherapy: MSW student or permission. 3 credits

SWK 581 Horticultural Therapy Methods

Introduces students to horticultural therapy as an intervention approach using horticultural activities with a broad range of populations including but not limited to children and teens in a variety of settings such as foster care or residential placements, persons with special needs, adults with various problems, and persons who are incarcerated. 3 credits

SWK 582 Supporting Families Under Stress

Explores impact of stress on the coping patterns and development of families. Stressors range from family transitions such as separation and loss through divorce, illness, death and aging to chronic stress of poverty, racism, and classism. MSW student or permission. 3 credits Note: SWK 582 will become an official course designation beginning fall 2006. Supporting Families Under Stress will be offered spring 2006 as an Advanced Topics Course: On the Orono campus: CRN 33438 section 981 and at The Hutchinson Center in Belfast : CRN 33440 Section 985: SWK 597: Adv. Top. SWK: Families Under Stress.

SWK 597 Advanced Topics in Social Work

There are a variety of courses offered each semester that are assigned the SWK 597 course name. Many of these courses have content that will meet the Child and Family Services Certificate requirement, check with the School of Social Work before requesting permission to register. Prerequisite: permission. 1-3 credits