MSW Student Handbook
2023 – 2024

Revised August 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

PURPOSE OF THE MSW STUDENT HANDBOOK

The purpose of the MSW Student Handbook is to provide information about the Social Work Department and MSW degree requirements. The Handbook should be used as a supplement to the Winthrop University Graduate Catalog which may be accessed through the Winthrop Graduate School website. Students are encouraged to use this Handbook as a reference and guide throughout their time as an MSW student at Winthrop University.

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HISTORY OF WINTHROP UNIVERSITY

The history of Winthrop University dates back to 1886 when 21 students gathered in a borrowed one-room building in Columbia, South Carolina. David Bancroft Johnson, a dedicated and gifted superintendent of schools, headed up the fledgling institution whose mission was the education of teachers. Winthrop has changed dramatically since moving to its permanent Rock Hill home in 1895, growing from a single classroom to a comprehensive university of distinction. Winthrop's historic campus is a setting of exceptional beauty, as is its recreational area known as The Farm.

Winthrop is a comprehensive public university granting baccalaureate and master degrees with an enrollment of over 5,000 students. Nationally recognized for its quality and value, Winthrop is a learning community that embodies the characteristics essential to being one of the best universities of its kind: a carefully selected student body of high academic achievement and cultural diversity; a national caliber curriculum of the arts, sciences, and professions; an educational experience emphasizing personal identity and close relationships; and values that emphasize critical thinking, student learning, and public service. Winthrop students have the opportunity to develop their individual capacities to become leaders in their professions and communities through a variety of personalized, engaging, and progressively developmental academic and co-curricular programs predicated on national standards of excellence. The Winthrop Experience is one that prepares students to live, learn, and lead for a lifetime.

Winthrop is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor, master, and specialist degrees. Additionally, the university is one of the few in the region that has achieved 100 percent national, specialized accreditation in all eligible programs.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

The Department of Social Work at Winthrop University has existed since the 1970s. The BSW degree program was first approved by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in 1970 when the Council began to approve undergraduate social work programs. The BSW Program was first accredited in 1974. The MSW Program was initiated in 2006 and accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education was granted effective for 2006. Both the BSW and MSW programs have remained continuously accredited by CSWE. Graduates of both programs are eligible to apply for state licensure at their respective educational degree levels – state licensure requirements vary.

DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Winthrop University Department of Social Work is to educate students to become competent generalist practice (BSW level) and advanced practice (MSW level) social workers. This mission is grounded in the purpose of the social work profession, which is to promote human and community well-being, and guided by an empowerment perspective that affirms the strengths and capabilities of people, values human diversity, and promotes social and economic justice.

As a student-centered learning community, the Department follows the established core social work values of service, social justice, the dignity and worth of the person, the importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. The mission is carried forth in an integrated learning context that values knowledge based on scientific inquiry, emerging information technology, and a commitment to evidence-based practice. Members of the Department apply their scholarship and professional expertise through leadership,

collaboration, and service at local, state, national, and international levels.

The mission of the Department of Social Work is integrated with the larger Winthrop University mission. Winthrop University is South Carolina's distinctive public comprehensive university. The University provides personalized and challenging undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education programs of national caliber and is committed to being among the very best institutions of its kind in the nation. In keeping with the University mission, social work graduates are prepared to professionally serve the broadly diverse geographic regions and the richly unique citizens within those regions of the Carolinas and beyond.

MSW PROGRAM

The mission of the MSW Program is to educate students to become competent advanced practice social workers. This mission is fulfilled through the program concentration in **empowerment practice**. Empowerment practice utilizes critical thinking skills to assess the influence of multiple and interlocking personal, structural, and societal systems of power on vulnerable and oppressed populations. It incorporates the use of advanced social work theories and methodologies for culturally relevant assessment, intervention, and evaluation at multiple levels of complexity and across systems in order to promote human and social well-being. Empowerment practice affirms the strengths and capabilities of people, values human diversity, and promotes social justice.

MSW PROGRAM GOALS

Graduates of the MSW Program are prepared to:

1. Engage in advanced practice that is constructed from a professional foundation of social work knowledge, skills, and values.
2. Use empowerment practice principles as a guiding framework for selecting, applying, and evaluating evidence-based advanced theories and methods in ways that promote human and social well-being.
3. Provide leadership in influencing societal systems of power to become more responsive and culturallyrelevant toward helping people improve their current situations and quality of life.

MSW PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

The Winthrop University MSW Program has been continuously accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) since its inception in 2006. The MSW Program meets all social work education standards as promulgated by CSWE. For review of the CSWE Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards, please visit the CSWE website at www.cswe.org. The Winthrop University Department of Social Work Core Competencies with Foundation and Concentration Practice Behaviors is included in Appendix A of this Handbook.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Campus-based Admission Requirements. Full-time Traditional, Weekend Traditional and Weekend Advanced Standing Program cohorts are admitted for August enrollment. The Full-time Advanced Standing cohorts are admitted for May enrollment. The priority deadline for all cohorts is February 1. Application deadline is April 30 for summer admission and June 15 for fall admission, or until the cohort is full.
Online Admission Requirements. Traditional Track and Advanced Standing Track options will begin each January, May and August.

Admission is competitive and only applicants with fully completed application packets will be reviewed. The program considers all components of the application in its admission decision. Applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis for full or provisional admission. For admission to the MSW degree program, an applicant must:

1. Submit a Winthrop University Graduate School Application including the following:

    - Three professional recommendations. Personal/character references from family members, friends, co-workers, and clergy are not appropriate. If you graduated within the last five years, one reference should be an academic reference. You may also use an employer or someone who has supervised your volunteer work. *You will be asked to provide names and e-mail addresses of three individuals who can complete a recommendation form on your behalf.*

    - A current, professional resume that demonstrates paid and volunteer experience in the helping profession.

    - A professional narrative statement (3-5 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font) addressing the following: 1) Your reasons for pursuing the MSW degree and your commitment to the profession; 2) Your career goals upon completing the degree; and, 3) How a specialization in empowerment practice will help you reach your professional goals. Prior to beginning your statement, please read the NASW Code of Ethics and our statement on Empowerment Practice. This statement must be developed solely by the applicant with no outside assistance and reflect sound, professional judgement.

2. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university (Advanced Standing applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree in social work from a Council on Social Work Education accredited college or university).

3. Submit official transcripts from **ALL** colleges and universities attended. Transcripts must be sent directly to Winthrop's Graduate School office from issuing institution(s).

4. Have an overall undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the Advanced Standing Programs. For the Traditional Programs, a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale is preferred on the last 60 credit hours.

ONLINE LEARNING SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the University Online Learning System Requirements, Online MSW students are required to have and be able to use a webcam.

MSW DEGREE OPTIONS

The MSW can be earned in one of six ways. The **Campus Based Full-Time Traditional Program** offers a 60 credit hour, two year format taken over four semesters. The **Campus Based Weekend Traditional Program** also requires 60 credit hours of coursework but classes are completed during three years in an intensive weekend format. The **Online Traditional Program** also requires 60 credit hours of coursework but classes are completed during three years in an online format. The campus based **Full-Time Advanced Standing Program** requires 39 credit hours of coursework across one calendar year. The **Weekend Advanced Standing Program** also requires 39 credit hours, but classes are taken over two years in an intensive weekend format. The **Online Advanced Standing Program** also requires 39 credit hours, but classes are taken over two years in an online format.

The weekend and online programs are designed to meet the needs of working professionals and individuals who prefer to pursue their course work in a weekend or online format. Weekend program classes meet one weekend per month. Each course in the weekend program is offered on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday one month and then on a Saturday and Sunday the following month. Assignments are completed prior to the first weekend, between weekends, and following the final weekend. Online program courses run for 7 week terms, two terms per semester with the exception of field internships and SCWK 631, 621, and 640 which run for semester long 14 week terms.

The Full-Time, Weekend, and Online Traditional programs are available to applicants who have a baccalaureate degree in any field. The Full-Time Advanced Standing, Weekend Advanced Standing, and Online Advanced Standing programs are available only to applicants who have a bachelor of social work degree from a CSWE accredited program.

NOTE: The Weekend Advanced Standing and Traditional Programs are no longer accepting applications.

Campus Based Full Time Traditional MSW Program

Schedule of Courses (60 credits)

This program requires two years of study. The entry point for new students is August.

Year One	

Fall Semester

SCWK 601 Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3 credits
SCWK 602 Social Welfare Policy I	3 credits
SCWK 603 Social Work Research	3 credits
SCWK 604 Generalist Social Work Practice I	3 credits
SCWK 605 Interpersonal Helping Skills	3 credits

Spring Semester

SCWK 615 Empowerment Practice Concepts	3 credits
SCWK 610 Generalist Social Work Practice II	3 credits
SCWK 611 Generalist Social Work Practice III	3 credits
SCWK 612 Field Instruction I	3 credits
SCWK 614 Social Welfare Policy II	3 credits

Year Two	

Fall Semester

SCWK 620 Advanced Practice: Micro Systems	3 credits
SCWK 623 Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice	3 credits
SCWK 631 Advanced Practice: Macro Systems	3 credits
SCWK 622 Field Instruction II	6 credits

Spring Semester

SCWK 621 Leadership & Empowerment Practice	3 credits
SCWK 633 Advanced Social Work Research	3 credits
SCWK 640 Advanced Practice: Capstone	3 credits
SCWK 632 Field Instruction III	6 credits

Campus Based Weekend Traditional MSW Program

Schedule of Courses (60 credits)

This program requires three years of study. The entry point for new students is August.

Year One

Fall Semester

August/September	SCWK 601	Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3 credits)
October/November	SCWK 602	Social Welfare Policy I (3 credits)

Spring Semester

January/ February	SCWK 604	Generalist Social Work Practice I (3 credits)
March/April	SCWK 605	Interpersonal Helping Skills (3 credits)
January-June	SCWK 612	Field Instruction I (3 credits)

Summer Session

May/June	SCWK 603	Social Work Research (3 credits)
July/August	SCWK 610	Generalist Social Work Practice II (3 credits)

Year Two

Fall Semester

August/September	SCWK 611	Generalist Social Work Practice III (3 credits)
October/November	SCWK 614	Social Welfare Policy II (3 credits)
August – December	SCWK 622A	Field Instruction II (3 credits)

Spring Semester

January/February	SCWK 615	Empowerment Practice Concepts (3 credits)
March/April	SCWK 623	Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice (3credits)
December - May	SCWK 622B	Field Instruction II (3 credits)

Summer Session

May/June	SCWK 633	Advanced Social Work Research (3 credits)
July/August	SCWK 624	Psychodiagnostics & Social Work Practice (3credits)[Optional]

Year Three

Fall Semester

August/ September	SCWK 620	Advanced Practice: Micro Systems (3 credits)
October/November	SCWK 631	Advanced Practice: Macro Systems (3 credits)
August – December	SCWK 632A	Field Instruction III (3 credits)

Spring Semester

January/February	SCWK 621	Leadership & Empowerment Practice (3 credits)
March/April	SCWK 640	Advanced Practice: Capstone (3 credits)
January – May	SCWK 632B	Field Instruction III (3 credits)

Online Traditional MSW Program

Schedule of Courses (60 credits)

This program requires three years of study. The entry point for new students is August, January, or May. Students take 2 courses per semester in 7 week terms (A and B) unless otherwise noted.

Year One

Semester 1

Term A	SCWK 601 Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3 credits)
Term B	SCWK 602 Social Welfare Policy I (3 credits)

Semester 2

Term A	SCWK 604 Generalist Social Work Practice I (3 credits)
Term B	SCWK 605 Interpersonal Helping Skills (3 credits)

Semester 3

Term A	SCWK 603 Social Work Research (3 credits)
Term B	SCWK 610 Generalist Social Work Practice II (3 credits)
Term B	SCWK 612e Field Instruction I (1 credits)

Year Two

Semester 4

Term A and B	SCWK 612F/G	Field Instruction I (1 credit each)
Term A	SCWK 611	Generalist Social Work Practice III (3 credit)
Term B	SCWK 614	Social Welfare Policy II (3 credit)

Semester 5

Term A	SCWK 615	Empowerment Practice Concepts (3 credit)
Term B	SCWK 623	Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice (3 credit)

Semester 6

Term A and B	SCWK 622E	Field Instruction II (1 credit)
Term A	SCWK 633	Advanced Social Work Research (3 credit)
Term B	SCWK 620	Advanced Practice: Micro Systems (3 credit)

Year Three

Term 7

Term A and B	SCWK 622F	Field Instruction II (1 credit)
Term A and B	SCWK 631	Advanced Practice: Macro Systems (3 credit)

Term 8

Term A and B	SCWK 632E	Field Instruction III (1 credit)
Term A and B	SCWK 621	Leadership & Empowerment Practice (3 credit)

Term 9

Term A and B	SCWK 632F	Field Instruction III (1 credit)
Term A and B	SCWK 640	Advanced Practice: Capstone (3 credit)

Term 10 (optional)

Term A	SCWK 624	Psychodiagnostics & Social Work Practice (3 credits)

Campus Based Advanced Standing MSW Program

Schedule of Courses (39 credits)

This program requires one full calendar year of study. The entry point for new students is May.

Summer

SCWK 615	Empowerment Practice Concepts	3 credits
SCWK 606	Social Work Foundation Review	3 credits
SCWK 614	Social Welfare Policy II	3 credits

Fall Semester

SCWK 620	Advanced Practice: Micro Systems	3 credits
SCWK 623	Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice	3 credits
SCWK 631	Advanced Practice: Macro Systems	3 credits
SCWK 622	Field Instruction II	6 credits

Spring Semester

SCWK 621	Leadership & Empowerment Practice	3 credits
SCWK 633	Advanced Social Work Research	3 credits
SCWK 640	Advanced Practice: Capstone	3 credits
SCWK 632	Field Instruction III	6 credits

Campus Based Weekend Advanced Standing MSW Program

Schedule of Courses (39 credits)

This program requires two years of study. The entry point for new students is August.

Year One

Fall Semester

August/September	SCWK 606 Social Work Foundation Review (3 credits)
October/November	SCWK 614 Social Welfare Policy II (3 credits)
August - December	SCWK 622A Field Instruction II (3 credits)

Spring Semester

	SCWK 615 Empowerment Practice Concepts (3 credits)
January/February	SCWK 623 Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice (3 credits)
March/April	SCWK 622B Field Instruction II (3 credits)
January - May	

Summer Session

May/June	SCWK 633 Advanced Social Work Research (3 credits)
July/August	SCWK 624 Psychodiagnostics & Social Work Practice (3 credits)[Optional]

Year Two

Fall Semester

August/ September	SCWK 620 Advanced Practice: Micro Systems (3 credits)
October/November	SCWK 631 Advanced Practice: Macro Systems (3 credits)
August - December	SCWK 632A Field Instruction III (3 credits)

Spring Semester

January/February	SCWK 621 Leadership & Empowerment Practice (3 credits)
March/April	SCWK 640 Advanced Practice: Capstone (3 credits)
January - May	SCWK 632B Field Instruction III (3 credits)

Online Advanced Standing MSW Program

Schedule of Courses (60 credits)

This program requires two years of study. The entry point for new students is August, January, or May. Students take 2 courses per semester in 7 week terms (A and B) unless otherwise noted.

Year One		
Semester 4		
Term A Term B	SCWK 606	Social Work Foundation Review (3 credits)
	SCWK 614	Social Welfare Policy II (3 credits)
Semester 5		
Term A	SCWK 615	Empowerment Practice Concepts (3 credits)
Term B	SCWK 623	Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice (3 credits)
Semester 6		
Term A and B	SCWK 622E	Field Instruction II (1 credit)
Term A	SCWK 633	Advanced Social Work Research (3 credits)
Term B	SCWK 620	Advanced Practice: Micro Systems (3 credits)

Year Two		
Term 7		
Term A and B	SCWK 622F	Field Instruction II (1 credit)
Term A and B	SCWK 631	Advanced Practice: Macro Systems (3 credits)
Term 8		
Term A and B	SCWK 632E	Field Instruction III (1 credit)
Term A and B	SCWK 621	Leadership & Empowerment Practice (3 credits)
Term 9		
Term A and B	SCWK 632F	Field Instruction III (1 credits)
Term A and B	SCWK 640	Advanced Practice: Capstone (3 credits)
Term 10 (optional)		
Term A	SCWK 624	Psychodiagnostics & Social Work Practice (3 credits)

LIFE AND WORK EXPERIENCE CREDIT

In compliance with CSWE standards, the MSW Program does <u>not</u> accept life or work experience as academic credit toward the MSW degree.

COURSE SEQUENCING REQUIREMENT

The courses in the curriculum for each MSW degree option are sequenced such that each course builds upon prior courses in content and knowledge development. Therefore, courses must be taken in sequence in accordance with the curriculum layout for the particular program in which a student is enrolled. Exceptions are considered in the case of extenuating circumstances and must receive Graduate Director approval.

In the Online program options, to be considered for re-sequencing Online MSW students must first meet with the Graduate Director, and then submit a Department of Social Work Online Petition form. This includes changes affecting field courses.

TIME LIMIT FOR COMPLETING THE DEGREE

All work to be counted toward the MSW degree, including transfer credits if applicable, must be completed within the six-year period immediately prior to the conferring of the degree.

TRANSFER CREDIT

The Department of Social Work may grant up to 12 credits toward the MSW degree. Transfer credit is considered only from graduate work obtained from another CSWE accredited graduate institution and upon recommendation of the Department Chair and Graduate Director. Transfer of credit must be approved by the Graduate Director or Department Chair and signified on the student's official Program of Study. Students requesting consideration of transfer credit must supply the Graduate Director with the following information:

1. An official transcript that includes the course number, title, and earned grade for the courses to be considered for transfer credit; and,

2. A copy of the original syllabus of the actual course taken (must match with transcript year and semester for the course) and/or copy of the course catalog course description for the course taken (must match with transcript year and semester for the course).

Only those courses with an earned grade of B (or S) or higher will be considered for transfer credit. Courses approved for transfer credit must be substantially equivalent to Winthrop MSW courses. A graduate student may not transfer credit taken at another institution while he or she is on academic probation at Winthrop or is ineligible to return to Winthrop.

CHANGE OF PROGRAM REQUESTS

Students are admitted to a specific program cohort. Students wishing to change from one program cohort to another may formally request to do so by completing and submitting to the Graduate Director the [Change of Program Modality Form](). Students are urged to be cautious in pursuing a change from one program cohort to another as changing to a different cohort typically results in additional time toward completing the

MSW degree due to course sequencing problems that commonly occur upon changing programs. Online students are required to meet and discuss a transfer of program with the Online Program Coordinator before submitting a change of Program Request form.

FIELD EDUCATION

All students are required to complete field instruction courses per their program's schedule of courses. Field instruction requires students to be placed in community agencies for an internship where they are afforded the opportunity to apply MSW knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes. CSWE has designated field education as social work's signature pedagogy stating:

> Signature pedagogies are elements of instruction and of socialization that teach future practitioners the fundamental dimensions of professional work in their discipline—to think, to perform, and to act ethically and with integrity. Field education is the signature pedagogy for social work. The intent of field education is to integrate the theoretical and conceptual contribution of the classroom with the practical world of the practice setting. It is a basic precept of social work education that the two interrelated components of curriculum—classroom and field—are of equal importance within the curriculum, and each contributes to the development of the requisite competencies of professional practice. Field education is systematically designed, supervised, coordinated, and evaluated based on criteria by which students demonstrate the social work competencies.

All students should expect to complete their required field hours during regular work day business hours (i.e., between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday). Agencies with evening and weekend hours available for field are extremely limited and cannot be guaranteed for any student. Students who are employed during the time they complete their graduate studies will need flexibility with work hours in order to be able to successfully complete the field internship portion of the MSW program. If students cannot complete their required field hours during regular business hours, and a suitable field placement (one that meets all of Winthrop's field educational requirements) with evening/weekend hours is not found, they may be advised to withdraw from the MSW program. For details regarding field internship requirements and specific hours, please see the MSW Field Manual located on the Department of Social Work website.

Full-Time Program

Students in the Full-Time Advanced Standing Program are required to complete one specialized internship of 24 hours per week during fall and spring semesters. Students in the Full-Time Traditional Program are required to complete two internships—a generalist internship at 16 hours per week during spring semester of year one, and a specialized internship at 24 hours per week during fall and spring semesters of year two.

Weekend Programs

Students in the Weekend Advanced Standing Program and Weekend Traditional Program must be available to complete 12 hours per week of field internship under the supervision of an approved MSW degreed field instructor. Field internship hours typically occur during regular work day business hours (i.e., between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday). Thus, flexibility with one's employment is imperative to being able to successfully complete the field portion of the Weekend MSW Program.

Online Programs

For students admitted to the online MSW program starting Fall 2020, the field education courses/requirements are as follows:

Students in the Online Advanced Standing Program are required to complete one specialized internship of 12 hours per week across eight terms. Students in the Online Traditional Program are required to complete two internships—a generalist internship at 12 hours per week across three terms beginning at the end of year one, and a specialized internship at 12 hours per week across eight terms during years two and three. Field internship hours typically occur during regular work day business hours (i.e., between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday). Thus, flexibility with one's employment is imperative to being able to successfully complete the field portion of the Online MSW Program. For students admitted to the online MSW program from Fall 2018 through Summer 2020, the field education courses/requirements are as follows:

Students in the Online Advanced Standing Program are required to complete one specialized internship of 17 hours per week across six terms. Students in the Online Traditional Program are required to complete two internships—a generalist internship at 15 hours per week across two terms during year one, and a specialized internship at 17 hours per week across six terms during year three. Field internship hours typically occur during regular work day business hours (i.e., between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday). Thus, flexibility with one's employment is imperative to being able to successfully complete the field portion of the Online MSW Program.

STUDENT ADVISING

Upon matriculation students will be assigned a faculty advisor. The role of the faculty advisor is to assist students in progressing through their academic program of study. Advisors are also available to meet with students for professional advising and to assist students in addressing academic issues that impact their progress in the Program. Students are responsible for contacting their advisor as needed during their course of study at Winthrop.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

The first semester a student's cumulative grade-point average falls below a 3.00, he or she is placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation may not enroll in more than 9 semester hours per semester. A student on academic probation whose semester grade-point average is 3.00 or higher is not dismissed at the close of that semester even though the cumulative grade-point average remains below 3.00. The student may continue enrollment on academic probation. The student is removed from academic probation at the close of a semester in which the cumulative grade-point average meets or exceeds 3.00.

Students on probation in cohort programs requiring more than nine hours a semester and whose semester grade point average is 3.0 or higher are not dismissed at the close of that semester even though the cumulative grade point average remains below 3.0. If a student repeats one or two courses while on academic probation, the new grade replaces the original grade in the calculation of the grade-point average.
All course work used to restore the grade-point average to the minimum acceptable standard based on the number of hours earned must be completed at Winthrop. Applications for admission may be found on the Graduate School website www.winthrop.edu/graduateschool.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Department of Social Work shall be conducted with respect to the multiple dimensions of diversity as delineated in the 2015 CSWE Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards including age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereignty status.

We seek to conduct all Department activities without discrimination. To the degree that the Department has decision making authority, this policy shall apply to all aspects of the program including making continuous efforts to ensure equity to faculty and staff (including class, field, research, and other faculty, administrative personnel and support staff) in the recruitment, retention, promotion, tenure, assignment,and remuneration of program personnel; and to students through student recruitment, admission, retention, and financial aid policies and procedures. In addition the Department will exercise influence in advocating for the application of the aforementioned policies in specific situations where another administrative unit of the University holds decision-making authority affecting social work students or personnel.

COMMITMENT TO ANTI-RACIST AND ANTI-OPPRESIVE PRACTICES

The Winthrop University Department of Social Work understands that social work has a long and complex history, parts of which have benefited from and upheld the ideals of racism, White supremacy, and oppression of marginalized groups. Regrettably, oppressive ideals remain pervasive in our society and continue to impact the lives of individuals from marginalized groups. The values of the social work profession as well as the values of Winthrop Department of Social Work require us to be committed to advancing social justice, personal growth, professionalism, and cultural competence. Therefore, students in this class are encouraged to share their unique perspectives and experiences and demonstrate respect and appreciation for the diversity and difference of people and ideas. Doing so will deepen the richness of the classroom environment and prepare students to develop the skills necessary to become genuine culturally sensitive and responsive practitioners. Specifically, students will not engage in behavior that is harassing, threatening, demeaning, abusive, hurtful, or otherwise marginalizing to any group or person. If you have further questions, please connect with a departmental faculty member.

ACCESIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the practice of the Social Work Department to accommodate students with disabilities pursuant to federal and state law. Students who have a condition which may adversely impact their ability to access academics and/or campus life, and who require accommodations to complete their course work, may contact the Office of Accessibility at 803-323-3290 or accessibility@winthrop.edu. Once students have received their notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility, they should inform their course instructors as early as possible in the semester/term in order for reasonable accommodations to be enacted. Additional information may be found at www.winthrop.edu/accessibility.

HEALTH AND COUNSELING SERVICES

Health and counseling services are available to all graduate students enrolled in nine or more credits per semester. Services are rendered in full compliance with privacy and confidentiality laws. Services are located at Crawford Health Services. Health services may be accessed by phone at 803-323-2206 and counseling services may be accessed by phone at 803-323-2233. Additional information may be found at www.winthrop.edu/hcs.

CAREER SERVICES

Career services are available in 129 Crawford Building and may be accessed by phone at 803-323-2141. Services include career testing, assistance with resume development, interviewing skills, and job search support. Additional information may be found at www.winthrop.edu/cce.

SOCIAL WORK ETHICS AND VALUES

The Social Work Program mission and goals are consistent with the ethics and values of the social work profession in that students are encouraged to examine their values, acquire the necessary knowledge and develop needed skills to become effective advanced social work practitioners.

The professional responsibility of the social worker is discussed and examined across the curriculum. The National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics is used as the basis for social work values and ethics learning throughout the social work curriculum. Students are expected to know and abide by the Code in their conduct as emerging social work professionals. A copy of the NASW Code of Ethics may be downloaded free of charge through the National Association of Social Workers website at www.socialworkers.org.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

It is the policy of Winthrop University that sexual harassment by its employees or students against other employees or students shall not be condoned. The University is committed to maintaining a workplace and a campus environment that are free of such harassment and will enforce federal guidelines as they relate to sexual harassment. Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually-oriented "kidding" or "teasing," "practical jokes," jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, display of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact such as hugging, patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

With respect to employment, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other offensive physical, verbal, or visual conduct based on sex constitute sexual harassment when: (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

A student who believes she or he has been subject to harassment by an employee should immediately contact either the Dean of Students in 218 Dinkins, ext. 4503 or the Associate Vice President for Human Resources in 303 Tillman, ext. 2273. Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality about complaints and terms of resolution; however, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Additional information may be found at www.winthrop.edu/titleIX.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, Department of Social Work faculty and staff will make every effort to run classes in accordance with the official University posting which may be found on the University's Emergency Information web site at www.winthrop.edu/emergency. Postings will also be sent to Winthrop e-mail accounts by University officials. Notices are also posted on the campus alert line at 803-323-2222 and through local media outlets. Students may also register for WU Alerts for critical emergency updates for voice or phone texts (information on how to register may be found on the University Emergency Information website).

The Department of Social Work has discretion on whether to delay or cancel weekend classes due to inclement weather, other than in instances where the University has made an official weekend announcement. Should weekend classes be delayed or cancelled, notices will be posted on the weekend student listserv and also directly to class email lists. In circumstances where cancellation exceeds more than one equivalent day of class, the missed time will be rescheduled and make up days will be announced through

the weekend student listserv and class email lists.

Online students who experience inclement weather in their immediate area which impacts their ability to participate or complete course work should contact their instructor and the Online Program Coordinator as soon as possible.

STUDENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In keeping with the philosophy and purpose of Winthrop University, each student in the MSW program has the right to a quality education that prepares him or her for the advanced practice of the social work profession, and has the right to be treated fairly and respectfully by members of the social work faculty and staff.

Social Work students have the right to consult with their faculty adviser or course instructor concerning their educational process. In keeping with the expectation of a quality education, students have a right to have classes start on time and to have appropriate notification of the absence of an instructor. Students have a right to course syllabi that clearly state learning outcomes upon which respective courses and grades are based. Each course syllabus is viewed as an individual course contract to be fulfilled by the instructor and the student, both having specific responsibilities and obligations. Also, students have a right to teaching competence and course quality for achieving the goal of the stated learning outcomes. Instructors have a co-equal right to have students complete all assignments both in quantity and quality. Students have a right to a fair grade based on evaluations relevant to content and purpose of the course and to be informed regarding the quality of their work. Students have the right and responsibility to evaluate both the course and instructorthrough end-of-semester course evaluations.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

(TERMINATION)

Admission to the MSW or BSW Program does not guarantee continuance as a Social Work student. A student's participation in the Social Work Program may be terminated when there is reason to believe the student's academic and professional performance represents non-compatibility with the social work profession. Some of the reasons for which termination may be considered include the following:

1. Failure to maintain the required grade point average for the Program.

2. Inadequate communication skills suitable to the practice of social work.

3. Inadequate writing skills suitable to the practice of social work.

4. Lying, cheating, or plagiarizing in course work or field work.

5. Persistent inadequate performance of assigned field activities.

6. Excessive tardiness or absenteeism.

7. Persistent inability to meet deadline dates on assignments, projects, and field reporting.

Evidence of poor 'professional fit' for social work involves lack of adherence to professional social work values and/or the NASW Code of Ethics. Examples include the following:

1. Personal values consistently interfere with upholding the values of the social work profession.

2. Disrespect toward faculty, field instructors, clients, and professional staff and colleagues.

3. Lack of cultural competence and appreciation for social diversity with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic class, age, disability, and religion.

4. Sexual/romantic involvement with persons served professionally.

5. Confidentiality violations.

6. Unresolved personal issues which impair performance or safety in the classroom or in the field.

7. Substance misuse or abuse.

8. Criminal conviction (students are expected to inform the Program Director of any criminal convictions).

Conferences may be held with the student as needed to address and resolve academic and professional competence problems. Initial concerns are addressed whenever appropriate at the student-instructor level. Continuing concerns are then addressed at the Program Director level. If academic and professional competence problems remain unresolved, or are severe in nature, the student may, upon recommendation of the Program Director and approval by the Department Chair, be terminated from the program.

APPEAL AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

In cases in which a student believes that his or her rights have been disallowed or violated, he or she may pursue the following steps.

1. Request a meeting with the appropriate faculty member to discuss the issue and to seek resolution.

2. If the student believes that resolution at the first level was in error, or if the student believes addressing the issue individually with the faculty member would pose a risk, the student may appeal the matter in writing to the Program Director for resolution. The Program Director may request a meeting with the persons involved. At the student's request, their academic advisor may also participate in the meeting. The Program Director will then formulate a written disposition to the student. Note: If the Program Director is the person against whom the grievance is being brought, the student may proceed directly to the next level.

3. If the student believes the resolution at the Program Director level was in error, the student may appeal the matter in writing to the Department Chair who will then review the case and formulate a written disposition to the student. Note: If the Department Chair is the person against whom the grievance is being brought, the student may proceed directly to the next level.

4. If the student believes the resolution at the Department Chair level was in error, the student may appeal the matter in writing to the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Decisions at this level shall be considered final.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

MSW Student Association

The MSW Student Association provides social work students opportunities to organize activities related to the profession. The Association provides a forum through which social work students can have a collective voice in their educational experience. The Student Association is also a vehicle for helping students connect with the professional practice community and with the National Association of Social Workers at both the state and national levels. Membership in the Association is open to all MSW students.

Association of Black Social Workers

Winthrop Association of Black Social Workers (ABSW) is a student affiliate of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW). Their inclusive membership aims to foster understanding, awareness, and empowerment of the black community through advocacy, human services delivery, and research.

AWARDS

The Department of Social Work recognizes student excellence at both the undergraduate and graduate levels through a variety of scholarships and awards, including the following:

Linda M. Ashley Scholarship

The Linda M. Ashley Scholarship is a competitive award made to a nontraditional age student (age 30 or older) in social work. BSW and MSW students are eligible to apply. Applicants should submit a [Department of Social Work Graduate Scholarship Application](#), a resume, and a personal statement. The one-to-two page statement should address their interest in social work as a career, their journey as a nontraditional age student, and their academic and professional achievements. Applications should be submitted in electronic format to the Scholarship Committee at socialwork@winthrop.edu.

Virginia W. and Elizabeth C. Mortimer Scholarship

The Mortimer Scholarship is a competitive scholarship award made to MSW students who demonstrate a career interest in either affordable housing or emergency services, including services in the medical arena. Applicants should submit a [Department of Social Work Graduate Scholarship Application](#), a resume, and a personal statement. The one-to-two page statement should address their interest in a social work career in either affordable housing or emergency services/medical arena services and their academic and professional achievements. Applications should be submitted in electronic format to the Scholarship Committee at socialwork@winthrop.edu.

Ernestine C. Player Scholarship

The Ernestine C. Player Scholarship fund provides scholarships and/or discretionary funds to benefit MSW students who demonstrate potential for academic excellence. Applicants should submit a [Department of Social Work Graduate Scholarship Application](#), a resume, and a personal statement. The one-page statement and all application materials should be submitted in electronic format to the Scholarship Committee at

socialwork@winthrop.edu.

MSW Field Excellence Award

This award represents exemplary achievement by a graduating student in MSW field education including excellence in the performance of field internship duties and distinction in upholding the high standards of the social work profession. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format by March 10 to the Awards Committee at socialwork@winthrop.edu.

MSW Academic Excellence Award

This award represents exemplary academic achievement by a graduating student in the MSW Program, including superiority in academic performance, excellence as an engaged participant within the social work learning community, and distinction in upholding the high standards of the social work profession. Nominations should be submitted in electronic format by March 10 to the Awards Committee at socialwork@winthrop.edu.

Phi Alpha

The National Social Work Honor Society, Phi Alpha, is an honor society for social work students who have achieved academic excellence. Winthrop University is home to the Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Phi Alpha. Eligibility is determined during the Spring semester and qualified students will be notified via Winthrop email in March. Phi Alpha has released updated Eligibility Criteria. Beginning in Fall 2019, requirements for Phi Alpha eligibility include:

1. Students need to have completed 9 credit-hours in Social Work. Students must have completed 37.5% of the required coursework toward the degree (overall).Therefore,

    Advanced Standing MSW Students must have earned at least 15 credits.

    Traditional MSW Students must have earned at least 23 credits.

2. Phi Alpha is no longer using a pre-determined GPA for membership qualification. Phi Alpha now invites into membership students whose overall GPA is in the top 35% of all Social Work majors in your program. This means the top 35% of all BSW and all MSW students will be invited to join Phi Alpha.

NON DEPARTMENTAL SOCIAL MEDIA AND MESSAGING

Please note messaging apps such as GroupMe/WhatsApp/etc… are great ways to keep in touch and communicate but are not created, monitored, or regulated by the University. Hence, if you decide to keep in touch with one another, be mindful about how your participation may impact others. Students in the program are pursing the MSW at Winthrop in several different modalities across the country and operate under different graduate catalogs. As always if you have a question or concern, we highly encourage you to direct it to the individual or office to best assist you. If you do elect to engage with your colleagues using these formats,we encourage that communication follow standards for professionalism.

Core Competencies with Foundation and Concentration Practice Behaviors Winthrop University Department of Social Work

MSW-Generalist Practice Curriculum Map

Competency	Generalist Behaviors	601	602	603	604	605	610	611	612
1- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior	a) Make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to context;								X
	b) Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations;	X				X			X
	c) Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior; appearance; and oral, written and electronic communication;					X			X
	d) Use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes;			X					X
	e) Use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior;								X
2- Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice	a) Apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice;	X							X
	b) Present themselves as learners and engage client systems as experts of their own experiences in practice								X
	c) Apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse client systems.								X
3- Advance Human Rights and Social,	a) Apply their understanding of social and economic justice to advocate for human rights; and								X

Economic, and Environmental Justice	b) Engage in practices that advance social and economic justice.								X
4- Engage in Practice-informed Research and research-Informed Practice	a) Use practice experience to inform scientific inquiry and research;			X					X
	b) Apply critical thinking to engage in analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methods and research findings; and;			X					X
	c) Use/ translate research findings to inform/improve practice, policy, and service delivery	X		X					X
5- Engage in Policy Practice	a) Identify social policy at the local, state, and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services;								X
	b) Assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery of and access to social services		X						X
	c) Apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.		X						X
6- Engage with Individuals, families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities *6- Engage with Individuals, families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities (Continued)*	a) Apply knowledge of human behavior, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies; and	X			X			X	X
	b) Use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies.					X	X		X
7- Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and	a) Collect and organize data, and apply critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies;			X		X	X		X

Communities	b) Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the analysis of assessment data from clients and constituencies;	X			X			X	X
	c) Develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of				X	X	X		X
	strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies; and								
	d) Select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies.				X			X	X
8- Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities *8- Intervene with individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities (continued)*	a) Critically choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies;				X				X
	b) Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in interventions with clients and constituencies;				X			X	X
	c) Use inter-professional collaboration as appropriate to achieve beneficial practice outcomes;							X	X
	d) Negotiate, mediate, and advocate on behalf of diverse clients and constituencies; and		X					X	X
	e) Facilitate effective transitions and endings that advance mutually agreed-on goals.						X		X
9- Evaluate Practice with individuals,	a) Select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes;				X		X		X

Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	b) Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes;									X
	c) Critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate intervention processes and outcomes; and									X
	d) Apply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels.						X	X	X	X

MSW: Empowerment Specialization Curriculum Map

Competency	Empowerment-Based Specialization Behaviors	606	614	615	620	621	622	623	631	632	633	640
1- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior	f) Incorporate empowerment perspectives—including attention to personal, structural, and societal systems of power—when engaging ethical decision-making skills.			X			X			X		
	g) Integrate the values and principles of ethical social work practice, including the ability to independently assess and resolve ethical dilemmas, consistent with the NASW Code of Ethics.	X				X	X			X		
	h) Understand relevant social work credentialing and engage in lifelong learning to remain current with evidence-informed practice.					X				X		

2- Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice	d) Select and apply strategies that promote client and constituency empowerment by addressing inequalities and disparities shaped by cultural structures, institutional								X	X		
	systems, and societal values.											
	e) Analyze and compare different social constructions of privilege, oppression, and empowerment and their implications.			X			X			X		
3- Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice	c) Recognize, analyze, and address the interconnections of oppression and discrimination and use social change and leadership skills to promote human and civil rights.		X							X		
	d) Select and apply integrated empowerment practice approaches that promote social, economic, and environmental justice.	X		X						X		
4- Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-Informed Practice	d) Select and apply evidence-based theories and methods that are congruent with empowerment practice; and					X				X		X

	e) Work collaboratively with community-based systems to assess intervention effectiveness.									X	X	
5- Engage in Policy Practice	d) Apply empowerment-based policy practice skills across systems to influence and facilitate social welfare and economic policies that		X							X		

	promote human rights and advance social and economic justice.												
6- Engage with Individuals, families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities **6- Engage with Individuals, families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities (continued)**	c) Understand theories and methods of engagement and apply engagement methods that support empowerment principles of identifying and building client strengths and capabilities.			X		X			X			
	d) Apply engagement methods across systems in ways that alleviate oppression and discrimination and promote social, economic, and environmental justice.					X		X	X			