The School of Social Work is pleased that you are interested in pursuing your Master of Social Work. We use a rolling admissions process and encourage applicants to submit the application and all supporting documents at the earliest date possible. Students can choose from either the MSW in Clinical Social Work or the MSW in Leadership in Organizations and Communities. The following tracks are available.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

**Master of Social Work**

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**Advanced Standing MSW Program – 33 credits**

This program is available for students who enter with a BSW from a CSWE accredited program within seven years of graduation and meet the admission requirements. An overall minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher and a minimum 3.0 in social work courses are required. Students who have a 2.75 to 2.99 GPA on the last 60 credits leading to the bachelor’s degree will be considered for admission on a provisional basis. The advanced standing program can be completed in two semesters or part time (four to six semesters).

**Traditional MSW Program – 63 credits**

This program is designed for students who don’t meet the Advanced Standing requirements. A bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a GPA of 2.75 or higher is required. Students who have a 2.5 to 2.74 GPA will be considered for admission on a provisional basis. The traditional program can be completed either full-time (four semesters) or part-time (six to eight semesters).

**Experienced and Employed Social Service Practitioners**

Employed social service practitioners are encouraged to apply to either program. Currently employed practitioners or others who are currently employed should note that the program requires internship hours. Please consider whether or not your place of employment meets the criteria for an employer based internship or if leave can be taken to complete the internship at an approved site.

**TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:**

- **Completed and signed application** with $45 application fee.
- **Official Transcripts** from all undergraduate and graduate institutions attended mailed directly to Graduate Admissions, 1 S. Blvd., Nyack, NY. Or electronic transcripts can be sent from the Registrar’s Office to admissions.grad@nyack.edu or submitted through Parchment or eScripSafe.
- **Pre-requisites.** Students who have not earned a BSW will be required to submit Official Transcripts showing completion of coursework including College Writing (3 cr), Statistics (3 cr), Human Biology (3 cr), Sociology (3 cr), Psychology (3 cr) and Humanities and/or History (6 cr). Submit the Pre-requisite form along with the other required admissions documents.
- **Academic Reference.** Obtain a reference from a professor who can accurately assess your ability to successfully complete a graduate-level program. References must be sent in a sealed envelope with the writer’s signature across the seal or emailed directly to admissions.grad@nyack.edu.
- **Professional References (2).** Obtain a reference from a current or former employer who can accurately assess your level of competency and potential to successfully complete a graduate-level program. Obtain a second reference from either a professor or employer. If you have not been employed, provide additional academic references or volunteer/community service references. References must be sent in a sealed envelope with the writer’s signature across the seal or emailed directly to admissions.grad@nyack.edu.
- **Resume.**
- **Personal Statement Response.** See questions on page 2 of Application Procedures.
- **Critical Thinking Essay** (Traditional applicants). See questions on page 2 of Application Procedures.
- **Case Reflection** (Advanced Standing applicants). See case study on page 3 of Application Procedures.
- **Immunization Records.**

Submit all documents to: Admissions, 1 South Blvd., Nyack, NY 10960 or fax to 845.358.3047 or scan and email to admissions.grad@nyack.edu.
Writing Assignments

Include your name on each page with a heading for the topic of each question at the beginning of the response. Please use current APA style and save your document using “last name.First name.Essays” as the filename. Email to: admissions.grad@nyack.edu or fax to: 845.358.3047 or mail to: Graduation Admissions, 1 South Blvd., Nyack, NY 10960.

For All Applicants

Personal Statement Response – answers should each be one page in length

1. How did you first become interested in the social work profession? How has this changed over time? Discuss your motivation to pursue the MSW degree. What attracts you to Nyack College’s MSW program?

2. What experiences have you had in serving others? Has anyone been a role model for you in shaping your decision to be a social worker? Please elaborate.

For Traditional Applicants

Critical Thinking Essay – answer should be one page in length

Please read carefully the two statements that follow and select one for your response. Your response should include your own observations, examples, and/or ideas from authors with whom you are familiar. If you quote an author, remember to provide a proper reference using APA format. References to research or to other literature are not required but are recommended.

1. Social workers challenge social injustice.
2. Social workers respect the inherent dignity and worth of the person.
Case #2: Establishing a Cancer Treatment Unit

You are the director of social work in a large urban community hospital located in a low-income area serving people from various economic levels. You have been assigned to staff the planning committee charged with creating a plan for the future of the hospital. You grew up in the community and have family and long-standing friends who reside there. You also have relationships with many community human service administrators and staff members.

As the planning process proceeds, it becomes clear that most committee members favor the creation of a specialized cancer treatment unit, which will gain status recognition for the hospital and also attract patients from throughout the state. But such a recommendation will make it impossible to recommend improvements for emergency and ambulatory care that are desperately needed by the neighborhood. A recommendation for a cancer treatment unit will change the nature of the available health care, who will get the jobs, use of community space, kinds of housing which will be available, and so forth.

It becomes clear to you that the local community will gain very little and lose much if a cancer treatment unit is installed. You are torn between loyalties to the hospital, to the community in general, to the social and human service agencies in the community, and to the community’s population, including your friends and relatives who need a different type of service.

### PREREQUISITES FOR THE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

- Students who have not earned a BSW will be required to submit Official Transcripts showing completed undergraduate coursework in the areas listed below. This page must be submitted along with other required admissions documents.

- List undergraduate courses, course number and date of completion, as shown on your transcript. If you are currently enrolled in a course, write “in progress”. If your credits are based on the quarter system, divide the number of quarter hours by 1.5.

- Record only the number of courses needed to meet the requirement, even if you have had more courses than required.

- If you believe a course meets a particular requirement, but the content is not clear from the course title, include a copy of the course description from your undergraduate catalog or a copy of the course syllabus.

- If you do not have sufficient undergraduate work in a particular area and are accepted into the MSW program, you will need to complete coursework prior to starting. The MSW Admissions Committee will only review an application that is missing no more than one prerequisite.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>NAME OF COURSES</th>
<th>COURSE #</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
<th>COMPLETION DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>3 credits: a. 3-hour human biology course or its equivalent OR b. satisfactory CLEP score on a human biology exam OR c. successful completion of BSSW human biology competency process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humanities and/or History</td>
<td>(6 credits): philosophy, religion, arts, government, political science, economics, history, literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>(3 credits)</td>
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<td>College Writing</td>
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<td>Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>(3 credits)</td>
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