

SOCIAL WORK MAJOR - B.S.

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Mission of the BSW Program:

The Nyack College Baccalaureate Social Work (BSW) major is accredited by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE).

The mission of the Nyack College Baccalaureate Social Work program is to prepare students in a Christian context to be generalist social work professionals who provide service with competence, compassion, and the highest ethical integrity.

Equipping students with the knowledge, values, and skills of the social work profession, our program aims to raise social workers who can enhance the well-being of all people and communities, and promote a just and caring environment in a complex and interrelated global society.

In order to fulfill the mission, the Social Work Major has three goals: first, to prepare students to be generalist social work practitioners who are guided by a person-in-environment framework, respect for human diversity, scientific inquiry, and a global perspective; second, to provide a transformational learning environment that facilitates a love for learning and prepares students for graduate education, especially in social work; and third, to provide a learning environment that models an integration of Christian faith with learning, and prepares students to serve with compassion and the highest ethical integrity.

Student Learning Goals- Program Competencies:

Graduates of Nyack College's BS Work Major will:

1. Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly.
2. Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice.
3. Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.
4. Engage diversity and difference in practice.
5. Advance human rights and social and economic justice.
6. Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research.
7. Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment.
8. Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services.
9. Respond to contexts that shape practice.
10. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
11. Integrate their personal Christian faith with professional social work practice.

Program Assessment

The Nyack College BSW Program has implemented several mechanisms for evaluation of the Program, including a Field Instructor Evaluation, a Faculty Course Level Evaluation, a Senior Exit Survey and an Alumni Survey.

Due to the transition to EPAS 2008, the assessment was carried out for both current Program Competencies and previous Social Work Major Objectives. The following is the summary of the major findings from the Social Work Program Assessment for 2009-2010.

Occupational Status of the 2008 Graduates

Our program goal evaluation indicates that the social work program has been highly effective in preparing students to be generalist social workers and preparing them for graduate school.

Table 1 shows that all of our 2008 graduates have pursued graduate degrees or are currently employed in the field of social services.

Table 1: Occupational Status of 2008 Graduates

Occupational Status	Frequency	Percent
Working Full-Time as Social Worker	2	28%
Enrolled in/will soon start Graduate School	5	72%
Working in Another Field	0	
Total	7	100.0%

Overall rating of the program by the 2008 graduates

All of our graduates indicate that Nyack College social work program is either excellent or good.

Table 2: Overall rating of the Program

Overall Rating of the Program	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	5	83%
Good	1	17%
Fair	0	0%
Poor	0	0%
Missing Data	1	
Total	7	100%

Assessment on Student Learning Goals- Program Competencies

The graduating seniors indicated that they felt most competent in the area of professional identity/competency 1, and then on diversity practice/competency 4, human behavior/competency 7 and ethical principles/competency 2. Alumni also indicated similar preparation levels: the highest score was on professional identity/competency 1, and then ethical principles/competency 2, diversity practice/competency 4 and human behavior/competency 7. The Field Instructors also identified similar skills: Our students are most prepared in the competency areas of (1) diversity (4.21), (2) human rights and social and economic justice (4.07) and (3) professional identity (3.96). (see Tables A2-1).

Alumni indicated that they were prepared in all areas, nevertheless seniors showed their concern on the policy practice competency 5 (3.53/4), assessment skills/competency 10a (3.63/4) and intervention skills with organizations/competency 10c (3.63/4). Although field instructors showed their satisfaction on our students' policy practice (3.26/5), field instructors did evaluate students' competency with policy practice to be lowest of all competencies. Equally important, field instructors' overall evaluation of competency areas of assessment and intervention received very good ratings. (3.78). (see Table A2-1).

Table 3: The Summary Table of the BSW Program Competencies

BSW PROGRAM COMPETENCIES	METHOD OF MEASUREMENT	STANDARD	2008-	2009-	OUTCOME
			2009	2010	
			MEAN	MEAN	
1. Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students score satisfactory [3]	4.16/5	3.96/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]

	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0), item	3.64/4	3.86/4	100% of students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.76/4	3.75	100% of alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	85% score A on paper			Demonstrated very good understanding in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 246, 314, 354, 356, 462 Faculty agree 80%			Students performance meets expectation., however there were significant concerns regarding writing skills of ESL students.
2. Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory,	4.05/5	3.95/5	100% of students score satisfactory[3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	3.77/4	3.78/4	100% of students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	4/4	4/4	100% of alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	90% score B In this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 101, 499			Very good and excellent
3. Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	4.38/5	3.76/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3] and above
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	3.69/4	3.68/4	100% of students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0) with item 14.1	3.83/4	4/4	100% alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	90% score B in this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 101, 314, 315, 354, 428, 499 Faculty agree 80%			Fairly Good and excellent understanding as demonstrated in assignments
4. Engage diversity and difference in practice.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	4.4/5	4.21/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0), item 9.6	3.85/4	3.81/4	100% students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.83/4	3.75	100% alumni agree (3.0) with item 14.6
	Student Portfolio	90% score B in this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 101, 254, 315			Excellent self-awareness skills an good understanding as demonstrated in social justice projects
5. Advance human rights and social and economic justice.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	3.8/5	4.07/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	3.77/4	3.53	100% students agree (3.0)

	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.80/4	3.5	100% alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	80% score B in this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 101, 254, 315			Good understanding of history. Fair skills in advocacy and its application to practice.
6. Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	4.21/5	3.63/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	2.68/4	3.68/4	100% students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.67/4	3/4	100% alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	90% score B in this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 358, 428			
7. Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	3.75/5	3.74/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	3.57/4	3.84/4	100% students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.75/4	4/4	100% alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	80% score B in this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 314:1, 354:1			85% met or exceeded expectations on exams and quizzes
8. Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	4.27/5	3.26/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	3.54/4	3.53/4	100% students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.67/4	3.5/4	100% alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	80% score B in this area			Demonstrated excellent ability in this area
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 315			Good results on quizzes and exams. Fair policy practice skills.
9. Respond to contexts that shape practice.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	Not Included	3.63/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	Not Included	Not Included	73 % students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	Not Included	Not Included	100 % alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	80% score B in this area			Challenged by the assignment and showed fair evaluation skills

	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 462, 499			Marginally meets expectation
10. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.	Field Supervisor Evaluation	80% of students, satisfactory	4.02/5	3.78/5	100% of students score satisfactory [3]
	Senior Survey	80% students agree (3.0)	3.64/4	3.63/4	92% students agree (3.0)
	Alumni Survey	80% alumni agree (3.0)	3.75/4	3.5/4	100% alumni agree (3.0)
	Student Portfolio	90% score B in this area			
	Faculty Course Level Assessment	SWK 354, 416, 456			Students show a good /very good assessment and intervention skills. However there were significant concerns regarding writing skills of ESL students.

Admission to the Social Work Major

The Social Work Major encourages applicants who demonstrate both academic competency and characteristics that will serve as a sound base for professional development. It is important that students who apply for the Social Work Major have the motivation and ability to work effectively with people.

In addition to the general admission requirements listed in the catalog, admission to the Social Work Major requires the following items:

1. Completion of a substantial portion of the Nyack College core curriculum and most prerequisites listed below.
2. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5.
3. Submission of departmental application.

Students may apply for program admission following completion of approximately 50 credit hours and most prerequisites, or March 1st of the sophomore year. Exceptions can be made only on recommendation by the adviser to the program director and subsequent approval by the program director.

Prerequisites for the Social Work Major

SWK 101 - Introduction to Social Work & Social Welfare
 SWK 246 - Interpersonal Communication Skills
 SWK 254 - Understanding Diverse Populations
 INT 101- Information Literacy
 ENG 101-102 - College Writing I and II
 PSY 101 - General Psychology
 SOC 101 - Introduction to Sociology
 POL 215 - American Government
 BIO 216 - Human Biology

Field Education

In the second semester of the junior year, students engage in field experiences combined with pre-practice seminar (SWK 357 Field Experience and Pre-practice Seminar). Students are required to work at social service agencies at least 60 hours during the semester. Placement begins in September and ends in December. All students must have their own transportation for field experience.

During the senior year, students take two field instruction courses (SWK 417 and 457) working at least 400 hours at social service agencies under the supervision of professional social workers. It is combined with field instruction seminar. Placement begins in September and ends in July.

Note: A student whose grade point average is below 2.5 may not be allowed to start field instruction.

Degree Requirement

1. The Bachelor of Science in Social Work requires completion of 120 credits, including 55 credits in required Social Work courses, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 in the major, and completion of specific liberal arts requirements for the Dept of Social Work.
2. Students must also satisfy the college’s general education requirements.

Liberal Arts and Sciences Core (38 credits)

Social Work majors have specific courses replacing some courses in the standard core, as well as additional requirements counted as core.

Liberal Arts and Science Core Component	38
LIB 101 Information Literacy.....	1
ENG 101-102 College Writing I and II	6
PSY 101 General Psychology	3
SOC 101 Intro to Sociology	3
POL 215 American Government	3
BIO 216 Human Biology	4
ENG 201 or 202 Global Literature I or II	3
HIS113-114 World Civilization I and II	6
PHI 101 Intro to Philosophy	3
Art History Elective.....	3
Mathematics Elective.....	3

^Social Work Majors: take SOC 101 (Introduction to Sociology) as major-specific Social Science elective; replace SOC 347 (Contemporary American Society) with SWK 254 (Understanding Diverse Populations)

Language Requirements (6 credits)

Bible and Ministry Minor Curriculum	15
PMN 101 Introduction to Spiritual Formation.....	2
BIB 101 Old Testament Lit	3
BIB 201 New Testament Lit.....	3
BIB 301 or 302 BIB Docs I or II	3
BIB, REL or Historical THE elective	3
PMN 201 Nyack Heritage.....	1

Social Work Major Component	55
SWK 101 - Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare.....	3
SWK 246 - Interpersonal Communication Skills.....	3
SWK 254 – Understanding Diverse Populations	3
SWK 314 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	3
SWK 315 - Social Welfare Policy and Economic Justice	3
SWK 316 - Principles of Social Work Practice.....	3
SWK 354 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	3
SWK 356 - Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families.....	3
SWK 357 - Field Experience and Pre-practice Seminar	3
SWK 358– Social Work Research and Statistics I	3
SWK 416 - Social Work Practice with Groups	3
SWK 417 - Field Instruction and Seminar I.....	5
SWK 428 - Social Work Research and Statistics II	3

SWK 456 - Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities .	3
SWK 457 - Field Instruction and Seminar II.....	5
SWK 462 - SWK in Christ Cntxt or SWK 377 Poverty & Child SE Asia ..	3
SWK 499 - Integrative Seminar.....	3

Miscellaneous Elective Component (6 credits)

Miscellaneous electives.....	6
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Total credits required 120

Social Work Major Suggested Program Plan

FIRST YEAR: Fall

PMN 101-Intro to Spiritual Form.	2
INT 101-Info. Literacy.....	1
ENG 101-College Writing I	3
HIS 113-World Civilization I	3
SWK 101-Intro. to Social Work..	3
SOC 101- Intro. To Sociology....	3

SECOND YEAR: Fall

BIB 102-Old Testament Lit.	3
ENG 201 or 202-Glob Lit. I or II.	3
BIO 216-Human Biology	4
SWK 246-Interpersonal Comm..	3
Foreign Language	3

THIRD YEAR: Fall

BIB 303 Christian Thought.....	3
SWK 314-Human Behavior I	3
SWK 315-Social Welfare Policy	3
SWK 316-Prin of Social Work....	3
Electives	3

FOURTH YEAR: Fall

SWK 462 or SWK 377 SWK in Christ. Cont. or Poverty/SE Asia	3
SWK 416-SW Practice w/Grps..	3
SWK 417-Field Instrn. & Sem. I.	5
SWK 428-SW Res & Stats.....	3

FIRST YEAR: Spring

ENG 102-College Writing II	3
HIS 114-World Civilization II.....	3
Art History elective	3
PSY 101-General Psych.....	3
PHI 101-Intro. To Philosophy.....	3
PMN 201-Nyack Heritage.....	1

SECOND YEAR: Spring

BIB 201-New Testament Lit.	3
Foreign Language.....	3
POL 215-Amer Government.....	3
SWK 254-Diverse Populations..	3
MAT-Mathematics Elective.....	3

THIRD YEAR: Spring

BIB-Elective.....	3
SWK 354-Human Behavior II	3
SWK 356-SW Prac w Ind/Fam..	3
SWK 357-Field Experience	3
SWK 358-SW Research & Stats..	3

FOURTH YEAR: Spring

SWK 456-SW Pr w/ Org/Com. ...	3
SWK 457-Field Instrn. & Sem. II	5
SWK 499-Integrative Seminar...	3
Two Electives	3