

SOCIAL WORK



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

SOCIAL WORK IS A PROFESSION with educational and licensure requirements for those with a strong desire to promote social justice and improve the collective well-being of individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. The social work profession in the United States is more than 100 years old and only those who have earned a social work degree or are licensed as a social worker are “professional” social workers. Through employment in a wide variety of community settings, social workers empower clients to restore or enhance their social functioning capacity by linking them with needed resources and also advocate for social justice through the development and implementation of social policies.

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

The Xavier Advantage:

- ▶ Get hands-on field education in your senior year to integrate your classroom learning in supervised practice experiences with real client systems.
- ▶ Learn with faculty experts and scholars in areas ranging from addictions and child abuse to gender and diversity studies, eating disorders and spirituality.
- ▶ Be recognized for academic excellence with induction into the Rho Lambda chapter of the Phi Alpha National Honor Society for social work programs.
- ▶ Earn your BSW from Xavier’s accredited program and you may be eligible to take the Licensed Social Work (LSW) exam in the spring of your senior year to prepare for job opportunities in Ohio.

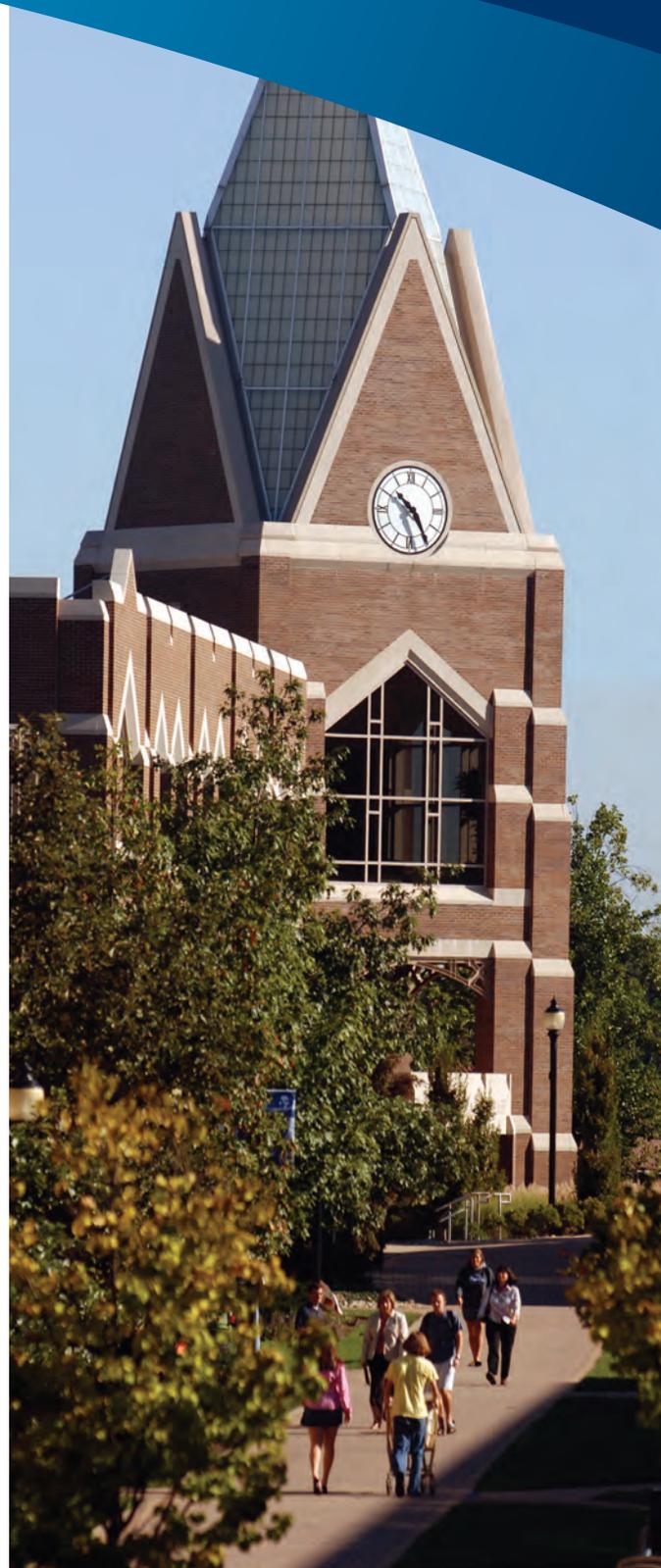
Xavier social work graduates go on to:

- ▶ Crisis intervention with many populations
- ▶ Mental/physical health services and agencies
- ▶ Adult and children’s protective services
- ▶ National, state and local elected office
- ▶ Teach for America, AmeriCorps and the Jesuit Volunteer Corps
- ▶ Adler School of Professional Psychology
- ▶ Boston College
- ▶ University of Michigan

Learn more www.xavier.edu/social-work

Ask us xuadmit@xavier.edu

Visit campus www.xavier.edu/visit



THE PROGRAM

As one of the oldest accredited bachelor's-level programs in the nation, Xavier's Department of Social Work offers the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree which prepares beginning-level generalist practitioners.

In 1980, Xavier University acquired Edgecliff College, a liberal arts college in Cincinnati supported by the Sisters of Mercy, which included a social work program. The Social Work Department at Xavier was established from that program and was initially accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in 1981. Reaffirmation of accreditation occurred in 1987, 1994, 2002 and again in 2010. The department is one of 10 located in the College of Social Sciences, Health, and Education.

- ▶ Social work students primarily complete their university Core requirements during freshman and sophomore years. This includes some Core courses that are specifically required for the social work major such as certain biology, psychology, sociology and statistics courses.
- ▶ Most required social work courses for the major are upper-level courses taken during the junior and senior years.
- ▶ During both semesters in senior year, students complete 16 hours per week in a supervised field placement they help to choose during spring semester of the junior year. Field education is the central vehicle for BSW students to integrate the classroom curriculum with supervised practice experiences and real client systems, and become introduced to the profession.
- ▶ Students graduating with a BSW in the state of Ohio may be eligible to take the LSW (Licensed Social Worker) licensure exam in spring of their senior year to prepare for employment opportunities in Ohio.
- ▶ Social workers who have graduated with a high GPA from an accredited BSW program like Xavier's are usually eligible for advanced standing admission to many graduate-level (MSW) programs. Through advanced standing, social work students can complete their graduate degree in only one year, making them eligible to take the LISW (Licensed Independent Social Work) exam in the state of Ohio. Licensure requirements vary by state.
- ▶ In 2008, the department received the Curriculum Development Institute (CDI) grant from CSWE's Gero-Ed Center to infuse the foundation curriculum with content on older adults in order to prepare students with the knowledge, values and skills to meet the workforce needs of our rapidly aging society. This will continue to keep our students current with both the Baby Boomers turning 65, which started in 2010, as well as centenarians becoming the fastest growing age group.

FACULTY

As part of a smaller department, social work students are engaged in learning with expert faculty who hold the terminal degree and independent licensure in social work. Faculty expertise and scholarship include such areas as gender and diversity studies, generalist practice, child abuse, eating disorders, addictions, cultural competence, domestic and sexual abuse, ethics, gerontology and spirituality. The faculty is active in university and community service, conducting research and writing scholarly publications.

OUTCOMES

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment for social workers is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations. Job prospects are expected to be especially favorable for those specializing in work in rural areas or with the aging population.

According to the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), professional social workers are the nation's largest group of mental health services providers. Federal law and the National Institutes of Health recognize social work as one of five core mental health professions. There are more clinically trained social workers than psychiatrists, psychologists and psychiatric nurses combined. More than 40 percent of all disaster mental health volunteers trained by the American Red Cross are professional social workers.

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) reports that more than 170 social workers hold national, state and local elected office. Legislators who also are social workers include:

- Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md.
- Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich.
- Rep. Susan Davis, D-Calif.
- Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill.

Xavier BSW graduates have accepted positions in many areas, including:

- Adult and children's protective services
- Services for housing and homelessness
- Client advocacy
- Women's crisis centers
- Foster care services
- Services for those with developmental delays and disabilities
- Older adult living communities
- Social services for families and for seniors
- Teach for America, AmeriCorps and the Jesuit Volunteer Corps

Recent BSW graduates have also been accepted into graduate programs at the following prestigious institutions:

- Adler School of Professional Psychology
- Boston College
- Case Western Reserve
- Columbia University
- Loyola University Chicago
- New York University
- University of Chicago
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Kentucky
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- Washington University in St. Louis

HONORS

In February 2011, Phi Alpha National Honor Society for social work programs granted a chapter, Rho Lambda, to Xavier University. The purpose of Phi Alpha is to provide a closer bond among students of social work, to recognize academic excellence, and to promote humanitarian goals and ideals. Social work majors are

eligible to be inducted after completing eight credit hours of required social work courses, achieving an overall GPA of 3.0, and a 3.25 GPA in required social work courses. Rho Lambda, in conjunction with the Student Social Work Organization, hosts service opportunities, social events and other activities to enhance the experience of social work majors at Xavier.

LICENSURE

The social worker licensure exam is a national exam but each state determines its own passing score as well as any other licensure requirements. The national pass rate over the last 10 years has ranged from 67 percent to 77 percent for those taking the exam. The pass rate for Xavier students who take the LSW exam has been consistently higher than the national pass rate.

CORE CURRICULUM

The foundation of Xavier's success is its commitment to its Jesuit heritage. The Core Curriculum embodies Xavier's mission and philosophy of education and serves as a valuable foundation for all undergraduate students. Within the Core, the four-course Ethics/Religion and Society (E/RS) Focus fosters students' understanding of socially significant issues through study of the humanities, especially literature, philosophy and theology, as well as the social and natural sciences. Along with courses in their major, Xavier students also take Core courses in: cultural diversity, English composition, fine arts, foreign language, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, science, social science and theology.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Core Curriculum: Minimum 64 credit hours. Several courses offered by the social work department fulfill the fourth societal focus course in the Core Curriculum's Ethics/Religion and Society (E/RS) Focus: SOCW 318 Race Relations; SOCW 315 Social Institutions; and SOCW 404 Religion, Ethics & Professional Practice.

Major in social work: 50 credit hours including the following topic areas:

- ▶ Survey of Society in Social Work
- ▶ Human Behavior and the Environment
- ▶ Child Welfare
- ▶ Gender and Diversity
- ▶ Social Policy
- ▶ Values, Poverty, and Social Institutions of Society
- ▶ Theory & Methods
- ▶ Research Methods & Paper
- ▶ Field instruction (460 clock hours of internship)

Social science support Core elective courses: Nine credit hours which can be taken from social work or other social science courses such as:

- ▶ Addictive Behaviors
- ▶ Child Abuse
- ▶ Religion, Ethics, & Professional Practice
- ▶ Introduction to Criminal Justice
- ▶ Juvenile Justice
- ▶ Abnormal Psychology
- ▶ Social Psychology
- ▶ Political Sociology
- ▶ Academic service-learning coursework



XAVIER AT A GLANCE

Founded in 1831, Xavier University is a Jesuit Catholic university in Cincinnati, Ohio, annually ranked among the nation's best universities. Its three colleges offer 85 undergraduate majors, 54 minors and 11 graduate programs to 7,019 total students, including 4,368 undergraduates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

OFFICE OF ADMISSION

Phone: 513-745-3301
877-XUADMIT (982-3648)
Fax: 513-745-4319
Email: xuadmit@xavier.edu
Web: www.xavier.edu

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

Margo J. Heydt, EdD, LISW, Chair
Phone: 513-745-3244
Email: heydt@xavier.edu
Web: www.xavier.edu/social-work
On Campus: 156 Cohen Center



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

Office of Admission
3800 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-5131