

School of Social Work Master of Social Work

SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA is committed to a program of studies that is informed by a central concern for human rights, personal empowerment, community change, and social justice. It has as its foundation an analysis of power in relation to class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and abilities. Incorporating critical social thinking, including structural, feminist and anti-racist analyses, the School focuses on social work in northern and remote areas, aboriginal and cross-cultural issues, women and human services, and community practice and research. It continues to develop in collaboration with regional, national and global communities.

The Master of Social Work Program is available on a full- or part-time basis and may be completed through a thesis or practicum route. The MSW builds on the BSW by offering students an integrated research/policy/practice concentration in one of the key thematic areas: social work in northern and remote areas, First Nations, women and the human services, and community practice and research. The aim of the MSW is to provide students with advanced social work research, policy and practice skills. It is designed to enable students to pursue independent studies that will help them undertake a variety of responsibilities in management, policy formulation, program consultation, planning, advanced social work, clinical practice, and research within the human services

Accreditation: The MSW Program at UNBC is fully accredited and was granted the maximum 7-year re-accreditation by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) in June 2010. CASWE is a voluntary, national, non-profit association of university faculties, schools and departments that offer professional education in social work at the undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate levels.

There are two entry routes into the MSW at UNBC:

1. Entry from a BSW and one year (12 months full-time equivalent) post-BSW human service experience. Entry at this level leads directly into the MSW Program.
2. Entry from a Bachelor degree in a related area and two years (24 months full-time equivalent) human service experience. Entry at this level begins with an MSW Foundation Year of studies.

MSW Foundation Year

Required Courses:

- SOCW 630-3 Communication Skills
 SOCW 631-3 Critical Social Work Practice
 SOCW 632-9* MSW Practicum I
 SOCW 633-3 Critical Social Policy
 SOCW 634-3 Social Work Research/Policy/Practice
 SOCW 635-3 Social Work Philosophy and Ethics
 SOCW 637-3* Advanced Practice Methods
 Two 600 level electives
 *Corequisites

After completing the Foundation Year, students complete the MSW Program requirements as described below.

SOCW 634-3 must be successfully completed prior to registration in SOCW 609-3 and HHSC 703-3.

MSW PROGRAM

The Master of Social Work Program requires the successful completion of 33 credit hours of course work including a practicum or thesis. The MSW course requirements appear below.

Required Courses for Thesis route:

- SOCW 609-3 Advanced Quantitative Research
 HHSC 703-3 Advanced Qualitative Research Approaches in Health and Human Sciences

- SOCW 704-3 MSW Integrative Seminar
 SOCW 700-12 MSW Thesis

Required Courses for Practicum route:

- SOCW 609-3 Advanced Quantitative Research
 HHSC 703-3 Advanced Qualitative Research Approaches in Health and Human Sciences
 SOCW 704-3 MSW Integrative Seminar
 SOCW 732-6 MSW Practicum II

All students must take at least two of the following courses:

- SOCW 601-3 Issues in Northern/Remote Social Work
 SOCW 602-3 First Nations: Advanced Social Work Practice
 SOCW 603-3 Women: Policy/Practice Issues
 SOCW 605-3 Community Work/Politics of Change

Elective Courses*

- **Thesis students must take two electives. Those two electives are normally Social Work courses taken from the list below, or the list immediately above (SOCW 601, 602, 603, 605), but may on occasion also be courses from other UNBC graduate programs, and/or from other accredited Canadian universities via approved transfer agreements.**
- **Practicum students must take a total of four electives. Up to four (and a minimum of two) must be Social Work courses and come from the list below, or the list immediately above (SOCW 601, 602, 603, 605). Two may on occasion come from other UNBC graduate programs, and/or from other accredited Canadian universities via approved transfer agreements.**

- SOCW 604-3** Directed Readings
 SOCW 610-3 Wellness: Alternate Approaches
 SOCW 613-3 Clinical Social Work Practice
 SOCW 615-3 Multi-Cultural Social Work Practice
 SOCW 620-3 Policy Making/Human Services
 SOCW 621-3 Comparative Welfare Analysis
 SOCW 651-3 Legal Issues for Women
 SOCW 698-3 Special Topics
 SOCW 701-3 Research Practicum

*Not all electives are offered in a given year.

** May be taken once only.

The MSW Foundation Year and the MSW Year requirements are detailed below:

MSW Foundation Year		
Courses	Fall Term	Winter Term
Required	SOCW 630-3 SOCW 631-3 SOCW 633-3	SOCW 634-3 SOCW 635-3
	SOCW 637-3 SOCW 632-9	
Electives		2 MSW Electives
Foundation Year	33 Credit Hours	
MSW Year		
Courses	Thesis Option	Practicum Option
Required	SOCW 609-3 SOCW 704-3 HHSC 703-3 SOCW 700-12	SOCW 609-3 SOCW 704-3 HHSC 703-3 SOCW 732-6
	Take at least 2 of: SOCW 601-3 SOCW 602-3 SOCW 603-3 SOCW 605-3	
Electives	2 Electives	4 Electives
MSW Year		
Course Work	21	27
Practicum	0	6
Thesis	12	0
Total required for MSW Year	33 Credit Hours (Either Option)	
Total Required for Foundation Year and MSW Year	66 Credit Hours	

Regulations of the Office of Graduate Programs and the Graduate Academic Calendar take precedence over this document. Please see their webpages below.

www.unbc.ca/graduateprograms
<http://www.unbc.ca/calendar/graduate>

School of Social Work Faculty and Research Interests:

Dawn Hemingway, RSW, Associate Professor and Chair (on sabbatical)

BA (Simon Fraser) MSc MSW (UNBC)
*Adulthood/Aging (Care-giving, Psychogeriatrics,
Empowerment/Self-Advocacy), Disability Issues,
Community Development/Community-based
Research, Women and Health,
Northern/Remote Community Health*

Glen Schmidt, RCSW, Associate Professor and Acting Chair

BA BSW (Manitoba) MSW (British Columbia)
PhD (Memorial)
*Social Work Education Outcomes, Mental
Health Services, Services to First Nations
People, Remote and Northern Practice Issues,
Child Welfare Practice and Policy*

Si Transken, RSW, Associate Professor

BA Hons BSW (Laurentian) MA PhD (Toronto)
*Criminal Harassment, Incest, Sexual Assault,
Violence Against Women, Expressive Arts
Therapy, Feminist Social Work, Anti-Racism,
Mediation, Sexual Expression and Identities*

Bruce Bidgood, Associate Professor

BA (Brock) MSW PhD (Wilfrid Laurier)
*Family Violence, Child Welfare, Social Policy,
Social Administration, Social Planning, Applied
Social Welfare Research*

Heather Peters, Associate Professor and MSW Coordinator

BA (Saskatchewan) BSW (British Columbia)
MSW (Carleton)
*Homelessness, Social Policy, Housing Policy,
Community Development, Aboriginal Self-
Government, Youth, and Women and Housing*

Dave Sangha, Assistant Professor

BSW MSW (British Columbia)
*Social Policy, Community Development, Human
Rights, Anti-Racism, Diasporic Communities,
Child Welfare Nations Realities and Identities
and Interdisciplinary Studies*

Joanna Pierce, RSW, Assistant Professor and Director of Field Education

BSW MSW (Northern British Columbia)
*Mental Health, Community Development, Cross-
cultural Communications, Remote/Northern
Practice Development and Social Policy*

Indrani Margolin, RSW, Assistant Professor and BSW Coordinator

BA (Guelph) MSW (Wilfred Laurier) PhD (OISE
Toronto)
*Holistic Social Work Practices (spirit, mind,
body), Expressive Arts Therapies (authentic
movement), Girls' and Women's Sexual Health
and Well-Being (bodyself), Narrative Inquiry,
Arts-Based Research Methodologies*

Tammy Stuble, RSW, Assistant Professor

BA (Cape Breton) BSW (Victoria) MSW
(British Columbia)
*Child Welfare Policy and Practice,
Mental Health, Family Violence, Social
Work and Spirituality and Disability
Issues*

Nancy Jokinen, RSW, Assistant Professor

BA HBSW MSW Gerontology Specialization
(Lakehead) PhD (Calgary)
*Aging, Disability, Health, Dementia, Familial
Relations and Support, Quality of Life, Age-
Friendly Communities, Qualitative and Mixed
Methods Research*

*For further information about the
Master of Social Work Program at
UNBC, please contact:*

Eileen Hunsaker, Field Education Coordinator & MSW Administrative Assistant

Room Number: 10-2564
Telephone: 250-960-5802
E-mail: hunsaker@unbc.ca

Heather Peters, MSW Coordinator

School of Social Work
College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences
University of Northern British Columbia
3333 University Way
Prince George, British Columbia
V2N 4Z9 Canada
Office: Quesnel campus
Telephone: 250-991-7519
E-mail: petersh@unbc.ca
Website: www.unbc.ca/socialwork

*For information on admission to
Graduate Studies, please contact:*

Graduate Studies Officer

Office of the Registrar
University of Northern British Columbia
3333 University Way
Prince George, British Columbia
V2N 4Z9 Canada

Toll Free in Canada: 1-888-419-5588
Telephone: 250-960-6336
E-mail: graduate-info@unbc.ca
Website:
www.unbc.ca/graduateprograms

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