

The UNBC School of Social Work 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 identity, 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; social work with Indigenous peoples, women and human service; and community practice and research. It continues to develop in collaboration with regional, national and global communities.

The Master of Social Work (MSW) Program is available on a full-time or part-time basis and may be completed by a thesis or practicum. 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 including advanced social work practice, management, policy formulation, program consultation, planning, clinical practice, and research.

Accreditation: The MSW Program at UNBC is fully accredited and was granted the maximum 8-year re-accreditation by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) in June 2018.

There are two entry routes into the MSW:

1. Entry from a CASWE-accredited BSW leads into the **Advanced Year** of the MSW Program.
2. Entry from a Bachelor degree in a related area and two years (24 months full-time) human service experience leads into the **Foundation Year** of the MSW Program.

MSW Foundation Year

The Foundation Year requires the successful completion of 33 credit hours of course work and a practicum.

Required Courses for Foundation Year:

- 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 Social Work electives
*Co-requisites

After completing the Foundation Year, students move on to the Advanced Year.

MSW Advanced Year

The Advanced Year requires the successful completion of 33 credit hours of course work and a practicum or thesis.

Required Courses for Thesis route:

- SOCW 602-3 Indigenous Peoples: Advanced Social Work Practice
- 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 602-3 Indigenous Peoples: Advanced Social Work Practice
- 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 732-9 MSW Practicum II

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

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

Elective Courses

- **Thesis students must take two electives. They are normally social work courses taken from the lists below or above (SOCW 601, 603, 605) but may also be from other UNBC graduate programs and/or other accredited Canadian universities.**
- **Practicum students must take three electives. At least one must come from the lists below or above (SOCW 601, 603, 605). Two may come from other UNBC graduate programs and/or from other accredited Canadian universities.**

- SOCW 604-3 Directed Readings
- SOCW 610-3 Wellness: Alternate Approaches
- SOCW 613-3 Clinical Social Work Practice
- SOCW 670-3 Indigenous Peoples in Canada: Past/Present/Future
- SOCW 671-3 Reflections on Practice: Indigenous Children/Youth Mental Health
- SOCW 672-3 Social Work/ Counselling Skills with Indigenous Children/Youth
- SOCW 673-3 Mental Health and Addictions among Indigenous Children/Youth
- SOCW 674-3 Crisis Work with Indigenous Children/Youth: Restoring Balance
- SOCW 675-3 Community-Based Prevention with Indigenous People: Creating Balance
- SOCW 698-3 Special Topics
- SOCW 701-3 Research Practicum

Summary of the MSW Foundation Year and MSW Advanced Year requirements:

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 Advanced Year		
Courses	Thesis Option	Practicum Option
Required	SOCW 602-3 SOCW 609-3 SOCW 704-3 HHSC 703-3 SOCW 700-12	SOCW 602-3 SOCW 609-3 SOCW 704-3 HHSC 703-3 SOCW 732-9
	Take at least 1 of: SOCW 601-3 SOCW 603-3 SOCW 605-3	
Electives	2 Electives	3 Electives
Advanced Year Course Work	21	24
Practicum	0	9
Thesis	12	0
Total required for Advanced Year	33 Credit Hours (Thesis or Practicum)	
Total Required for Foundation Year and Advanced Year	66 Credit Hours	

Faculty, including research interests:

Dr. Bruce Bidgood, Associate Professor
BA (Brock) MSW PhD (Wilfrid Laurier)
Family Violence, Child Welfare, Social Policy, Social Administration, Social Planning, Applied Social Welfare Research.

Dr. Susan Burke, RSW, Associate Professor, MSW Coordinator
BA (TWU) MSW (UNBC) PhD (UNBC)
Indigenous Social Work Practice, Child Welfare Practice, Kinship Care, Social Work Education.

Dr. Emmanuel Chilanga, RSW, Assistant Professor
BEd (University of Malawi) MSc (Western), MSW (McGill) PhD (McGill)
Community Practice, Field Education, Social Determinants of Health, Food Security and Nutrition, HIV and Addiction Support, Participatory Research, Agroecology, Mitigation of the Impacts of COVID-19, Rural and Urban Communities, Southern Africa, Canada.

Dr. Rahul Jain, RCSW, Assistant Professor
BA MA MSW, PhD
Mental Health Services (especially At-risk Children/Youth), Medical Social Work, Remote/Northern Social Work, Community Development, Multiculturalism, and Indigenous Social Work Practice.

Dr. Lisa Kyle, RCSW, Assistant Professor
BA (SFU) MSW (UNBC) PhD (UNBC)
Mental Health (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), Field Education, Social Work and Clinical Practice.

Dr. Indrani Margolin, RSW, Associate Professor, BSW Coordinator
BA (Guelph) MSW (Wilfrid Laurier) PhD (University of Toronto)
Spirituality in Practice, Arts/Movement Therapy, Girls' and Women's Embodiment, Arts-based Inquiry.

Dr. Tammy Pearson, RSW, Assistant Professor, Acting Chair
BA (University College of Cape Breton) BSW (UVIC) MSW (UBC) PhD (UNBC)
Child Welfare Practice and Policy, Mental Health, Family Violence, Social Work and Spirituality, and Disability Issues.

Dr. Heather Peters, RSW, Associate Professor
BA (Saskatchewan) BSW (British Columbia) MSW (Carleton) PhD (British Columbia)
Homelessness, Women and Housing Issues, Youth, Community Development, Social Policy, Indigenous Self-Government, Housing Policy.

Dr. Si Transken, RSW, Associate Professor
BA Hons BSW (Laurentian) MA PhD (Toronto)
Cultural Studies, Creative Writing, Criminal Harassment, Incest, Sexual Assault, Violence Against Women, Expressive Arts Therapy, Feminist Social Work, Anti-Racism, Mediation, Sexual Expression and Identities.

Dawn Hemingway, RSW, Professor Emerita
Adulthood/Aging (Care-giving, Psycho-geriatrics, Empowerment/Self-Advocacy), Disability Issues, Community Development/Community-Based Research, Women & Health, Northern/Remote Community Health

Dr. Glen Schmidt, RCSW, Professor Emeritus
Social Work Education Outcomes, Mental Health Services, Services to Indigenous Peoples, Remote and Northern Practice Issues, Child Welfare Practice and Policy

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

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School of Social Work
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Susan Burke
Associate Professor/MSW Coordinator
School of Social Work
Email: susan.burke@unbc.ca

For information on Graduate Admissions at UNBC, please contact:

Graduate Admissions and Retention Officer
Office of Graduate Administration
Telephone: 250-960-5125
Email: futuregradstudents@unbc.ca

Regulations of the Office of Graduate Administration and the Graduate Academic Calendar take precedence over this document. Please refer to their webpages:

<https://www2.unbc.ca/graduate-administration>

<https://www2.unbc.ca/calendar/graduate>

3333 University Way | Prince George BC, Canada | V2N 4Z9

August 2023

School of Social Work

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