



SOCIAL WORK

UW-EAU CLAIRE UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

Social work, as a helping profession, involves working with people in a variety of situations. Social workers assist individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities in the areas of child and family welfare, corrections, health, mental health and a variety of other social service settings.

The social work curriculum at UW-Eau Claire is designed to prepare you for entry-level professional social work and for graduate study. You will build knowledge of human behavior, and develop the skills needed for helping individuals, families, small groups, organizations or communities in a diverse society.

WHY STUDY SOCIAL WORK?

The primary purpose of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being. Social workers help meet the basic human needs of all people and empower those who are vulnerable, oppressed or living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession's dual focus on the individual in a social context and the betterment of society. Social workers help people identify and manage the environmental forces that create, contribute to and address problems in living. (NASW, 2002)

THE EAU CLAIRE ADVANTAGE

- Many students select UW-Eau Claire because of its excellent reputation, comfortable size, convenient location and lower cost.
- To use the title social worker in Wisconsin, a student must graduate from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and pass a

certification examination. UW-Eau Claire is an excellent choice. Our bachelor of social work degree is fully accredited by the CSWE. In addition, graduates of the program are eligible for certification as social workers in the State of Wisconsin.

- For students planning graduate study, the accredited BSW degree from UW-Eau Claire permits advanced standing of as many as half the credits needed to obtain a master of social work degree.
- Students learn through hands-on experiences. During their second or third semester, social work majors complete 30 hours of volunteer service in a social service agency to help them determine their interest in social work as a career. In their senior year, students complete a professional internship

UW-EAU CLAIRE FACTS AT A GLANCE

- Location: Eau Claire, Wis.; city pop. 64,000, metro. pop. 151,000
- Average enrollment: 10,500
- Undergraduates: 10,063
- Graduate students: 503
- International students: 124
- Multicultural students: 485
- Average men-women ratio: 2-to-3
- Students who spend at least a semester studying abroad: 24%
- Students doing undergraduate research with faculty/staff: 710+
- ACT composite average: 24+
- Average high school rank: 77%
- Average class size: 28
- Faculty-student ratio: 1-to-20
- Computers-student ratio: 1-to-9
- Student organizations: 224
- Walk across campus: About 10 minutes
- Nickname: Blugolds
- Colors: Navy and old gold

that involves working in a social service agency to develop the skills necessary to help others solve personal and environmental problems.

- Students have additional social and learning opportunities through the on-campus Association of Student Social Workers. Other professional organizations open to students are the Council on Social Work Education, the National Association of Social Workers, the Wisconsin Social Service Association and the Eta Upsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha National Social Work Honor Society.
- Students have access to computers campus wide, a special resource reading room and well-equipped laboratories.
- There also are rooms with one-way glass and modern video and audio equipment for monitoring and improving students' interpersonal and interviewing skills as well as a videoconferencing room for use with students in distant internships, such as in South Africa.

CAREER OPTIONS

Career paths are varied and flexible. Social workers work with communities and organizations as well as with individuals, groups and families in a wide variety of settings:

- County social services
- Hospitals
- Schools
- Mental health facilities
- Child and family welfare agencies
- Nursing care facilities
- Probation and parole offices
- State legislatures
- Unions
- Domestic violence shelters.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The social work department offers:

- Social Work – liberal arts
Comprehensive major; requires no minor.

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

- All students who enroll at UW-Eau Claire are required to have a minimum of 17 college preparatory units including:
 - 4 years of English (at least 3 composition and literature)
 - 2 years of a single foreign language
 - 3 years of math (algebra, geometry, 1 advanced college preparatory math)
 - 3 years of natural science
 - 3 years of social science (1 must be world or American history)
 - 2 additional units in the areas already mentioned or other academic areas
- Because good communication skills – writing and speaking abilities – are important in the profession, high school students considering a major in social work are encouraged to complete additional coursework in English composition and public speaking. Additional courses in biology, psychology and the social sciences also will prove helpful.
- Students who have a strong desire to help others resolve their personal, social or environmental problems will enjoy the social work profession. While challenging and rewarding, the practice of social work requires a sharp intellect, good personal adjustment, strong interpersonal skills and a commitment to maintaining ethical relationships.

COURSE WORK

In addition to a variety of general education courses in the natural sciences, social sciences, communications and humanities,

social work majors are required to take the following:

Core Courses in Social Work:

| COURSE# | TITLE | CREDIT |
|----------|--|--------|
| IDIS 100 | Introduction to Social Work | 3 |
| SW 220 | Interpersonal Skills | 3 |
| SW 285 | Social Welfare & Criminal Justice in the U.S. | 3 |
| SW 320 | Generalist Social Work Practice with Individuals | 3 |
| SW 323 | Methods of Social Work Research | 3 |
| SW 335 | Human Behavior and Social Environment | 3 |
| SW 383 | Social Welfare Policies and Programs | 3 |
| SW 405 | Ethnic-Sensitive Practice | 3 |
| SW 471 | Generalist Social Work Practice with Groups/Families | 3 |
| SW 472 | Generalist Social Work Practice with Communities/Organizations | 3 |
| SW 481 | Social Work Internship | 12 |

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about UW-Eau Claire's program in social work, contact:

Dr. Vanda Galen, chair

SOCIAL WORK

Human Sciences and Services 253
UW-Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-4435
galenv@uwec.edu
www.uwec.edu/sw

For more information about campus including costs, housing, admission requirements and tours:

ADMISSIONS

Schofield Hall 112
UW-Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-5415
admissions@uwec.edu
www.uwec.edu/admissions



Experience the Eau Claire Advantage.