

Bachelor of Science in Social Work

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

100% ONLINE

128
CREDIT
HOURS

Admission Requirements:

- Complete the online program application accompanied by a non-refundable processing fee.
- Submit official high school with a minimum 2.5 GPA and/or college transcripts with a minimum 2.0 GPA.
- Students are not required to submit ACT or SAT test scores.

Students are admitted to the B.S. in Social Work upon satisfactorily meeting the following criteria:

- Have junior standing within the University (at least 60 credit hours)
- Have a GPA of 2.75 or better in SOCW 230, SOCW 245, and SOCW 250
- Complete the application for admission to the program
- Approval for admission by program faculty after consideration of various criteria. An optional interview may be required by the Program Director or requested by the student.
- Signed commitment to follow the NASW Code of Ethics & Code of Conduct.

Cost:

- Per Credit: \$395
- Per Course: \$1,185
- Total Tuition: \$50,560
- Total Tuition + Fees: \$56,760



Timeline: 3.5 Years

Job Outlook in Texas:

70,303 Jobs

in 2025*

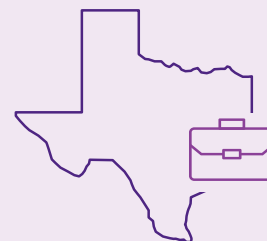
+1.7%

Employment Growth (2025-2026)

\$66,100 *per year*

Median Earnings

*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Bachelor's degree. Source Lightcast 2026.





Major Requirements:

Psychology Requirements

SOCW 230: Introduction to Social Work

An overview of the social work profession, exploring its history, values, ethics, and areas of practice. Students will examine the role of social workers in various settings and will gain an understanding of the foundational skills needed to engage with diverse populations. This course emphasizes critical thinking and self-reflection.

SOCW 245: Foundations of Social and Economic Justice

Introduction to human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice, including operational definitions and the ways they are manifested in the U.S. and globally. An justice; Avenues for advocating for human rights and justice.

SOCW 250: Principles of Practice: Ethics and Engagement

This course introduces core social work principles, including ethics, communication, and practice models. Students will build cultural competence, professional boundaries, and self-care skills while engaging in experiential learning and role-plays, preparing for real-world challenges and future roles in diverse settings.

SOCW 255: Social Worker Observation

Students complete 40 hours of direct observation and service under the supervision of a social worker in the community agency of their choosing, with ACU School of Social approval. Synchronous and asynchronous online instruction to occur to facilitate reflection and response.

SOCW 327: Theoretical Frameworks for Social Work

Understanding of theories of human behavior and person-in-environment in the examination of the biopsychosocial, and spiritual factors that shape human experience in life course development. Attention is given to the ecological impact of micro and mezzo systems, with appreciation for development in diverse populations.

SOCW 329: Diversity, Equity, and Belonging

Exploration of the knowledge base for practice with diverse groups, exploring theory, context, and current issues. Although institutional racism and sexism are the main thrust, the course also examines the implications of exclusion for other populations, including ethnic groups, older persons, LGBTQ+ community, and those experiencing disability.

SOCW 361: Pre-Practicum Orientation

Pre-practicum orientation will prepare social work majors for their impending field practicum with specific focus on simulation experiences, community engagement and feedback from local social workers, and professional development in partnership with the ACU Career Center. Prerequisite: SOCW 327, SOCW 329, and acceptance into the School of Social Work. Students must take this course prior to beginning their field practicum.

SOCW 415: Social Research

Knowledge and skills of evidence-based practice procedures. Includes critical evaluation of empirical literature to inform practice; and proposal development, including basic qualitative and quantitative research methodology including construct operationalization, study design, sampling, measurement, and analysis. Prerequisite: Admission to the social work program or permission of the director. Writing Intensive.

SOCW 441: Social Policy

A descriptive, analytical, and theoretical study of historical and current social welfare policy at all levels, with a critical examination of the relationship between social work practice and the U.S. social welfare system, noting impact on well-being, human rights, and service delivery.

SOCW 442: Policy Practice and Advocacy

Social work's influence and active engagement in policy practice, which involves advocacy and evaluation. An examination of the political and ideological factors of policy development, implementation, and evaluation, including an analysis of the intended and unintended outcomes of policy implementation. Prerequisite: SOCW 451 and SOCW 441.

SOCW 447: Practice I: Engagement & Assessment with Individuals & Groups

Students will explore practice behaviors associated with engagement and assessment components of the planned change process in multi-level practice. This course focuses on foundational communication and assessment skills needed for work with individuals, families, and groups. Perspectives on equity, inclusivity, and belonging will be considered. Prerequisite: Admission into the major.

SOCW 449: Practice II: Intervention & Evaluation with Individuals & Groups

Students will explore practice behaviors associated with intervention and evaluation components of the planned change process within multi-level practice settings. This course emphasizes methods of identifying, analyzing, and implementing evidence-informed interventions. Students will also apply culturally responsive perspectives in evaluating outcomes.

SOCW 451: Practice III: Communities and Organizations

Students will learn how to engage with, assess, and help organizations and communities using social work frameworks. The course will cover direct and indirect practice, finding effective large-scale solutions, organizing communities, building networks, and planning and advocating for change. Prerequisite: SOCW 451.

**SOCW 479: Social Work Practicum I**

Students will gain experience in an agency applying generalist knowledge, theory, and practice skills while developing competencies as a beginning-level practitioner. Students complete 200 clock hours under the supervision of an agency-based supervisor while actively participating in an academic course. Prerequisites: SOCW 361 and SOCW 451. Course Fee.

SOCW 481: Social Work Practicum II

Students will gain continued experience in an agency applying generalist knowledge, theory, and practice skills while developing competencies as a beginning-level practitioner. Students complete 200 clock hours under the supervision of an agency-based supervisor while actively participating in an academic course. Prerequisite: SOCW 451. Corequisite: SOCW 491.

SOCW 491: Social Work Integrative Seminar

Practitioners must integrate an eclectic set of skills to serve client systems holistically. This course combines values, knowledge, skills, and cognitive and affective processes from primary content areas of education and practice (Practice, Research, Policy, and Human Behavior) to illustrate the integrative nature of generalist practice. Corequisite: SOCW 482.

Electives

26 hours of electives.

General Education/University Requirements:

56 hours of general education and university requirements are needed to fulfill this degree, including 9-15 hours of Bible courses. Specific courses will be determined based on a student's incoming transfer credits.