

## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS School of Social Work

**Social Work:** <http://www.socialwork.illinois.edu/>

The purpose of undergraduate social work education at the School of Social Work is to provide a comprehensive educational experience for students that is grounded in a liberal arts tradition and prepares graduates for excellence. The focus of undergraduate curriculum delivery is through a student-centered, strengths-based educational model that fosters student understanding by providing a challenging, yet supportive environment of high expectations that encourages the development of well-informed and engaged citizens.

The BSW program is committed to excellence, offering a variable curriculum that prepares students for future success in the areas of generalist social work practice, policy, social engagement and leadership in diverse settings and with multicultural populations.

Upon degree completion graduates will be prepared for entry into generalist social work practice, advanced standing in graduate social work education and a multitude of career opportunities. These can include communications, corrections, education, government, health care, human resources, law, non-profit organizations, religious studies and public service.

### **Transfer Information**

The Bachelor of Social Work program is not large in the number of students admitted and the program is highly structured. Therefore, it is extremely important that prospective transfer students work very closely with their transfer institutions' advisors to complete the prerequisite coursework listed as well as completing prior to transfer as many of the recommended courses, which satisfy as many of the listed University of Illinois' General Education requirements as soon as possible. Additionally, some of the coursework may not be offered at a transfer's institution and completion of those courses must be done at the Urbana-Champaign campus. If there is intent to substitute transfer coursework, please consult the following website: <https://www.transfer.org/uselect/> for transfer course information and also with the School of Social Work contact listed below to determine if the substitute coursework might be acceptable. If equivalent courses or course substitutions are not available, intended transfer students may need to extend the time to degree completion to satisfy the BSW degree requirements.

Transfer students are accepted **for both fall and spring transfer** with a minimum of 55 or more acceptable transfer hours. Admission to the School of Social Work requires a **minimum GPA of 2.50 (A = 4.00)**, evidence of a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer or paid work experience in a social service agency and completion of the School of Social Work BSW Personal Statement\*.

**Please note:** Preference will be given to applicants who have completed the recommended listed coursework and the largest number of equivalent courses, which satisfy the greatest number of General Education requirements prior to transfer; however, **this does not guarantee admission**. The School of Social Work will utilize a holistic review process which will assess the entire student, i.e., academic record, work and service experience, leadership ability, demonstrated analytical and critical thinking skills, grade point average and the quality of the personal and professional information offered in all of the included essays. An interview with the applicant may be requested. Ultimately, the criteria for transfer admission will be determined by the quality of the applicant pool.

\*Applicants must complete a School of Social Work BSW Personal Statement as well as a Social Service Experience Summary found at <http://www.socialwork.illinois.edu/> and mail both to the School of Social Work, 1010 W. Nevada, Urbana, IL. 61801.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Office of Academic Programs, University of Illinois, School of Social Work, 1010 W. Nevada, Urbana, IL, 61801; Phone: 217/333-2261; Fax: 217/244-5220; Email: [undergradsocialwork@illinois.edu](mailto:undergradsocialwork@illinois.edu)

### **General Education Requirements**

All SOCW students must fulfill the University of Illinois' campus-wide General Education requirements prior to graduation. Courses which satisfy these categories are constantly being added to or deleted from this list of courses and the current list is maintained on the Internet and is located at the following link:

**<http://courses.illinois.edu/cis/gened/>**.

### **Recommended Transfer Coursework**

The BSW program of study is a highly structured program and requires a prospective transfer student to complete the recommended coursework and equivalent transfer courses listed under highly recommended. Completion of transfer coursework, which may satisfy the largest number of the General Education requirements listed below, may increase a candidate's admissibility for transfer admission. The following information lists the recommended coursework and Language Recommendation in **red italics**, which should be completed **prior to** admission. Information concerning the University of Illinois' General Education requirements can be found at the previously mentioned website listed in bold text in the paragraph above.

**Language Recommendation:** Starting with all 2012 applicants, there is no longer a language requirement for transfer admission. The School of Social Work requires completion through the third level of one language other than English, either in high school or college, to **graduate** from the college. It is strongly recommended that transfer applicants complete this graduation requirement prior to the term of enrollment at the University of Illinois. Early completion of this graduation requirement will allow time to complete other degree requirements, e.g., General Education coursework. Length of time to graduation may increase if the Language Requirement for graduation is not completed prior to enrollment.

At a minimum, it is **highly recommended** for transfer students to complete equivalents or comparable transfer coursework to the following University of Illinois courses and requirements:

***SOCW 200, Introduction to Social Work, if offered by the transfer institution***<sup>1</sup>  
***STAT 100, Statistics***<sup>2</sup>  
***Composition I and CMN 101, Public Speaking***<sup>3</sup>  
***Language Recommendation***

Additionally, completion of transfer coursework **prior to transfer**, which satisfies as many of the General Education requirements listed below may increase the chances of admissibility and be able to complete the degree requirements within two years of enrollment, is **highly recommended**.

***Cultural Studies – 3 hours from each category below***  
***Non-Western/U.S. Minority Culture(s)***<sup>4</sup>  
***Western Comparative Culture(s)***<sup>5</sup>  
***Humanities and the Arts – 3 hours from each category below***  
***Historical & Philosophical Perspectives***<sup>6</sup>  
***Literature & the Arts***<sup>7</sup>  
***Natural Sciences & Technology – 6 hours from either category below***  
***Life Sciences***<sup>8</sup>  
***Physical Sciences***  
***Quantitative Reasoning***<sup>3</sup>  
***Social & Behavioral Sciences – 9 hours from the categories below***  
***Behavioral Sciences***<sup>9</sup>  
***Social Sciences***<sup>10</sup>  
***Electives***<sup>11</sup>

(Continued)

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**PLEASE NOTE:** The number of required and recommended courses for transfer admission is rather extensive, and it is **highly recommended** that they be completed prior to the desired term of entry. If you are admitted with all or a majority of the courses completed prior to enrollment, you should be able to complete your degree in two years. If you are admitted with a lower number of courses completed prior to enrollment, it is highly likely that it will take longer than two years to complete your degree. Again, preference in admission will be given to those who have completed the most courses.

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<sup>1</sup> If an equivalent isn't offered, SOCW 200 will be completed on campus and coursework in the areas of anthropology, human development and family studies, sociology, political science and economics should be substituted

<sup>2</sup> Completion of another transfer course equivalent to any course which satisfies the second of the two-course Quantitative Reasoning General Education requirement is also **highly recommended**.

<sup>3</sup> At most institutions the equivalent requires a two-course English composition sequence, which satisfies the Composition I General Education requirement, i.e., RHET 105, Principles of Composition **and** an equivalent to CMN 101, Public Speaking which satisfies the speech requirement or completion of equivalent coursework to CMN 111, Oral & Written Comm I & CMN 112, Oral & Written Comm II, which satisfies both the composition and speech requirements.

<sup>4</sup> Completion of one equivalent or comparable transfer course to any of the University of Illinois courses which satisfy the Non-Western/U.S. Minorities Culture(s) General Education category is **highly recommended**. Be advised that some transfer coursework may also satisfy more than one University of Illinois' General Education requirement.

<sup>5</sup> Completion of one equivalent or comparable transfer course to any of the University of Illinois courses which satisfy the Western/Comparative Culture(s) General Education category is **highly recommended**. Be advised that some transfer coursework may also satisfy more than one University of Illinois' General Education requirement.

<sup>6</sup> Completion of equivalent or comparable transfer course to one of the following University of Illinois courses is **highly recommended**: HIST 172, HIST 272, HUM 141 or HUM 142. Be advised that some transfer coursework may also satisfy more than one University of Illinois' General Education requirement.

<sup>7</sup> Completion of one equivalent or comparable transfer course to any of the University of Illinois courses which satisfy the Literature and the Arts General Education category is **highly recommended**. Be advised that some transfer coursework may also satisfy more than one University of Illinois' General Education requirement.

<sup>8</sup> Completion of equivalent or comparable transfer course to an equivalent to one of the following University of Illinois course is **highly recommended**, i.e., IB 100, Biological Sciences, or any approved anatomy/physiology course.

<sup>9</sup> Completion of an additional equivalent or comparable transfer course to any of the University of Illinois courses which satisfy the Behavioral Sciences General Education requirement, i.e., Human Development and Family Studies or Psychology is **highly recommended**, i.e., HDFS 105, Intro to Human Development or PSYC 100, Intro Psych.

<sup>10</sup> Completion of two equivalent or comparable transfer courses to any University of Illinois courses which satisfy the Social Sciences requirement, i.e., SOCW 200, Introduction to Social Work or coursework from the following University of Illinois departments: Anthropology, Economics, Human Development and Family Studies, Sociology or Political Science is **highly recommended**.

<sup>11</sup> Completion of equivalent or comparable transfer course to any of the University of Illinois coursework prior to transfer is **highly recommended**: American Indian Studies; Afro-American Studies; Communication; Community Health; Human Development and Family Studies; Latina/Latino Studies; Political Science; Psychology; Social Work; Sociology; and Gender and Women Studies. **Consultation with the School of Social Work concerning completion of these electives is strongly recommended.**

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