

Mission

The mission of the B.S.W. program is to prepare graduates for generalist professional practice and to contribute to achievement of the College of Social Work's mission and vision within the context of its core values.

Goals

The B.S.W. program goals are designed to direct the activities of faculty, staff, and students toward achievement of the purposes of social work education and practice and the mission, vision of the College of Social Work. To this end, the program will achieve the following goals.

1. Ensure that curricula reflect current best practice and knowledge about social work and related disciplines.
2. Provide a coherent liberal arts underpinning upon which social work content can build with special emphasis on enhancing students' critical thinking and communication skills.
3. Provide opportunities for students to develop inquisitive, open-minded, and critical thinking approaches to knowledge.
4. Prepare graduates for culturally competent generalist practice with systems of all sizes that promotes well-being, healthy social functioning, and alleviation of poverty, oppression and other forms of social and economic injustice.
5. Provide curricular and educational opportunities for students to understand the need to practice social work from a value base, to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, and uphold the ethical responsibilities of social workers to:
 - a. Practice without discrimination against anyone on the basis of age, culture, class, ethnicity, family structure, marital status, sex, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation;
 - b. Engage in continual professional development and education; and
 - c. Work competently with other professionals.
6. Provide curricula that underscores the need for social workers to practice in diverse political, cultural, and global contexts.
7. Provide flexible educational programs within the context of school resources, professional obligations, and accreditation standards.
8. Maintain reciprocal relationships with social work practitioners, groups, organizations, and communities.
9. Contribute to the development and transmission of social work knowledge.

10. Provide educational experiences that reflect appropriate integration of relevant instructional and practice technologies.
11. Contribute to attainment of the College of Social Work mission and vision within the context of its core values.

Objectives

Graduates of the University of Utah B.S.W. program will be able to:

1. Practice within the values and ethics of the social work profession including:
 - a. Identifying and articulating one's own personal values;
 - b. Identifying faith-based community values that coincide with or differ from those of the social work profession;
 - c. Recognizing how one's own values impact on assessment and intervention;
 - d. Employing the NASW Code of Ethics in social work practice;
 - e. Identifying ethical dilemmas affecting practice and services to clients;
 - f. Resolving ethical dilemmas using appropriate decision-making processes;
 - g. Practicing without discrimination on the basis of age, culture, class, family structure, marital status, ethnicity, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation; and
 - h. Engaging in continued professional growth and development.
2. Demonstrate culturally competent practice for work in diverse political and cultural contexts including:
 - a. Recognizing diversity within and between groups;
 - b. Working to ensure social services are culturally relevant and appropriate;
 - c. Recognizing the forms and mechanisms of racism, oppression, and discrimination and their impact on client systems;
 - d. Critically analyzing and applying culturally appropriate theories and knowledge about client system functioning within environmental contexts;
 - e. Employing an ecological and biopsychosocial perspective when engaging in assessment, planning, and intervention; and
 - f. Employing knowledge and skills responsive to specific populations groups in the State of Utah including Hispanics/Latinos, American Indians, Pacific Islanders, and refugees.
3. Use practice knowledge and skills to promote alleviation of poverty, oppression, and other forms of social and economic injustice including:
 - a. Analyzing historical and current trends in social welfare policy and service delivery;
 - b. Analyzing policy research relevant to service delivery; and
 - c. Using knowledge of economic, political, and organizational systems to pursue policies consistent with social work values.
4. Function effectively within the structure of organizations and across service delivery systems including:

- a. Using appropriate practice-relevant technologies within the context of organizational resources and facilities; and
 - b. Using supervision and consultation appropriately to improve practice and enhance services to clients.
5. Use the planned change/problem solving process and generalist practice model with client systems of all sizes including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities including:
- a. Using knowledge and theories of individual, family, group, organizational, and community development to assess interactions among individuals and other social systems;
 - b. Applying relevant research findings to social work practice;
 - c. Employing evidence-based best practice when using professional knowledge and skills;
 - d. Using communication skills appropriate to client systems, colleagues, and community members;
 - e. Applying critical thinking skills to social work practice;
 - f. Working collaboratively with professionals from other disciplines;
 - g. Evaluating one's own practice effectiveness and sharing findings appropriately;
 - h. Demonstrating professional use of self in social work practice;
 - i. Utilizing a strengths perspective in assessments, planning, and interventions; and
 - j. Employing appropriate social work roles with client systems to include advocate, case manager, broker, educator, and evaluator.