Waldron College of Health and Human Services

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School of Social Work
Director: Dr. Diane Hodge (djhodge@radford.edu)
259 Waldron Hall, RU Box 6958, (540) 831-7690
Academic Advising

While you, the student, are ultimately responsible for making decisions about your educational plans and meeting the requirements of your academic program, you are part of your own individual advising team. The team members include you, your faculty advisor, and the Advising Center staff. You can make your advising team work for you by making and keeping regular advising appointments; planning class schedules in conjunction with your advisor; and monitoring your progress toward the completion of your degree program. There is a degree audit program online under your Student Information System and you should use it to double-check your requirements.

Advising Center

The Waldron College Advising Center is staffed by a full-time Director of Advising, a full-time Assistant Director of Advising and graduate students trained to assist in advising. The Advising Center serves as primary advisor for the following majors: Pre-Communication Sciences and Disorders, Pre-Nursing, and Pre-Social Work. Once you enter upper division Communication Sciences and Disorders, Nursing, or Social Work, you will be assigned a faculty advisor within that department and the Advising Center serves as secondary advisor. If you do not know who your advisor is, please check your degree audit (DegreeWorks) under Student Information on MyRU Portal.

Standards of Professional Practice Education

All students in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services must adhere to the Standards of Professional Practice Education. These standards may be viewed at the Advising Center website http://www.radford.edu/~wchs-adv/. Also at this site is a copy of the college Advising Manuals.

University Requirements

This is a reminder that completing all degree requirements is the responsibility of the student. Students need to use this Advising Manual, along with the University Catalog and Student Handbook (both are available online). A few general requirements are listed below:

✓ Students may repeat up to three (3) courses, and withdraw from five (5) courses, while at RU.
✓ Always double check your list of classes approved for Core Curriculum requirements – if you take a course not on the approved list, you will not be able to use it for a requirement.
✓ Students may take courses during the summer at RU or at another school for transferring back to RU (for transfer classes, check with the Registrar’s Office first so you know how the class will transfer back to RU).
✓ New freshmen and new transfer students must have at least a 1.00 GPA at the end of spring semester to avoid suspension.
✓ At least 45 credits (and 50% of major requirements and minor requirements, if applicable) must be completed at Radford University.
✓ To graduate with Latin Honors, the student must graduate with at least a 3.5 overall GPA and complete at least 60 credits at RU (if less than 60 hours, “with distinction” is given).

Academic Advising Website

http://www.radford.edu/content/advising/home.html

Radford University’s academic website contains most resources students need to be successful. This site contains information about your advisor, registration, campus resources, majors and minors, campus jobs and a link to each college’s Advising Center.
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM IN SOCIAL WORK
http://www.radford.edu/content/wchs/home/social-work.html

Director

Dr. Diane Hodge
259 Waldron Hall
dmhodge@radford.edu

Introduction

A social worker is a professional who is educated to help individuals, families, groups and communities solve a variety of problems. These problems include, but are not limited to: families dealing with substance abuse; elderly people living with Alzheimer’s disease; children who are abused or neglected; adolescents with mental health problems; systemic discrimination; communities experiencing environmental crises. These are everyday problems, yet widespread and serious. These are the situations with which social workers are involved in daily, and because of their extent and intensity, social workers must have the personal capacity and the educational background to understand and to help.

Social work majors must be well grounded in the liberal arts and must understand major theories about the human condition, theories drawn largely from sociology, psychology, biology, and philosophy. The professional courses in social work focus on working with people in order to help them find solutions to their problems and concerns. The demand for graduates of social work programs is high and its long-term future is bright. In fact, social work has been cited as one of the professions “on the move” for the next century.

A professional social work career requires a degree from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The baccalaureate degree prepares people to offer direct services in family and children’s agencies, in hospitals and schools, in mental health clinics or in senior centers, to name a few. Some students may wish to continue their education in a Master of Social Work degree program. Radford University’s MSW program offers advanced standing in the graduate program to qualified graduates of accredited undergraduate programs and therefore, Radford baccalaureate graduates are eligible to apply.

The School of Social Work offers a comprehensive program at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The undergraduate program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and is reviewed and monitored by the Professional Advisory Council of trained professional social workers. Course work includes courses in human behavior and the social environment, research, social welfare policies and services, intervention methods, and field instruction.
The professional program in social work leading to the Bachelors in Social Work (BSW) consists of three components: Core Curriculum requirements, a pre-professional core of courses (pre-social work majors) and a professional core (social work majors). Students accepted into the social work major participate in a 490-hour internship that takes place in the senior year in a social service agency under the close supervision of trained professional social workers.

Social work is a comprehensive helping profession. It is a dynamic, changing and challenging profession that allows persons to work in a wide variety of human services settings. Social workers work in many different fields, including but not limited to:

- Addiction
- Health care and medical settings
- Gerontology
- Child Welfare: adoption and foster care, child protective services, day care of children, and residential treatment
- Crime and delinquency
- Family preservation and support
- Food assistance and other basic needs
- Housing
- Community practice
- Interpersonal violence
- Youth service agencies
- Case management

BSW level social workers provide services to people from all walks of life, with all kinds of problems, in all kinds of settings. For example, a social worker might:

- locate a suitable nursing home for an aged parent and then help the family and the older person make the emotional adjustment to the new living situation
- meet with a teenager and his/her family who has been arrested for shoplifting and help problem solve with the issues that exist in the family
- place a special needs child for adoption
- provide services to persons with chemical abuse problems

It is important that prospective social workers know that their BSW degrees are the accepted entry-level educational credential for beginning social work practice. Because of the emphasis on problem-solving skills, and the involvement of the students in two internships, human service agencies look very favorably upon our graduates.

In addition, the School of Social Work offers the Masters of Social Work (MSW) degree; highly qualified graduates of Radford’s undergraduate social work program may complete the MSW degree in one calendar year.

Social work students have the opportunity for membership in several organizations established for social work majors. One is the Social Work Club, a student-run organization that carries out
service projects, social functions, and has regular programs of interest to human service practitioners. Phi Alpha (national social work honor society) is for students who are high academic achievers. Student Advisory Council/Committee members are liaisons with the School of Social Work, bridging communication between faculty and students. Students are also involved in decision-making committees within the School.

**Internships** in the social work program offer a wide variety of experiential learning. Not only do students integrate theories, concepts and methods learned in the classroom, but also get to see and work in the different agencies and facilities where this knowledge is put into use. SOWK 289 offers an opportunity to work in a human service agency. This course offers “hands on” knowledge that will be valuable in future classes and placements. SOWK 489, field instruction placement, offers students the responsibilities of a full-time professional while under a trained supervisor. Knowledge learned during the previous years of courses and field experiences will be applied during the field instruction placement. Students are placed in a setting which the Field Coordinator determines will provide the best educational experience.

The undergraduate Social Work Program, leading to the Bachelors Degree in Social Work (BSW) is a professional program that prepares students for direct practice as generalist social work practitioners. All interested students may take academic courses to test out their aptitude, readiness and competencies for the profession. This education prepares social workers to practice at a high level of expertise. Please note that all students in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services adhere to the Standards for Professional Practice Education. Additional competencies for Social Work majors will be discussed in the Social Work classes.

The BSW program is offered through two sites: (1) the Radford University program located at Radford University, and (2) the Radford University program located in Roanoke, VA, at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. Both programs are similar in structure and are nationally accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The basic BSW program is available at either site although course scheduling, and some policies and procedures differ slightly depending on the program. Each major must choose one program, under which to be admitted and from which to graduate, and must follow the policies and procedures for that program. Courses may be taken at either campus as arranged with the student’s faculty advisor.

In order to benefit from a nationally accredited BSW educational program, a potential social worker must have an **aptitude for the profession**, be ready to learn and practice at the application, analyzing and evaluation levels of learning, and move through a series of integrated courses that offer the future social worker the competencies related to generalist practice.

Any student who has been accepted to Radford University may apply to become a Pre-Social Work (PSWK) major through the Advising Center in 351 Waldron Hall. PSWK majors must take SOWK 200, SOWK 210 and then SOWK 289, following the prerequisites for each course. During the semester they are enrolled to take SOWK 210, students must apply to take SOWK 289. These application materials are available at the School of Social Work in 206 Waldron Hall or online at the School of Social Work web page.
Students must also apply to the upper division Social Work (SOWK) major (to be changed from PSWK to SOWK). Minimum requirements for admission to the SOWK major are as follows:

- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7; the actual GPA required for admission may be significantly higher as admission is competitive. Transfer students are advised that after 24 credit hours are earned at Radford University, the Radford GPA is used for admission. Transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours at Radford University are advised that the combined GPA for all course work is considered.

- Have passed, with a “C” or better; each of the following courses: SOWK 200, SOWK 210, Biology 104, Psychology 121, Sociology 110 and CORE 102.

- Have received a grade of “B” or better in SOWK 289 (or a “B” or better in SOWK 291) or if applying while concurrently in that course, have received a mid-term evaluation of “C” or better. Students who apply while in SOWK 289 may receive a provisional acceptance.

- Complete the Official Application to the Major in Social Work and accompanying prerequisite documentation, and submit by the School of Social Work deadline. The application is online and made available while you are enrolled in SOWK 289 or 291.

- As a part of the admissions process, interviews may be conducted by the School of Social Work BSW Committee.

Students who receive an acceptance to the Professional Program will automatically have their major switched to the SOWK major and may register for required SOWK 300 and 400 level courses according to the plan of study devised with their faculty advisor.

Students not accepted may remain PSWK majors and work with their faculty advisor to meet admission requirements, or they may decide to switch majors and begin a new course of study.

During the semester prior to undertaking SOWK 489 and 490, each SOWK major shall complete an “Application for Graduation” and turn it into the Waldron College Advising Center in 351 Waldron Hall for review. Students are then sent a letter outlining any remaining requirements needed for graduation with the BSW degree.

Note: A student may repeat a SOWK course only once. If a student is unable to pass the course (with a “C” or better) after two attempts, the student will be dropped from the program. Also in order to graduate, a SOWK student must have an in-major GPA of 2.8 and an overall GPA of 2.7.
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK B.S.W. Degree Requirements

NAME____________________ ID#________________ DATE________________

CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS 2018-2019

UNIVERSITY CORE

A. Core Foundations (12 SH)
CORE 101 Essentials of Written & Oral Communication 3
*CORE 102 Advanced Written & Oral Communication 3

*HNRS 103 Written & Oral Communication-Honors (CORE 103 will replace CORE 101 & 102 for those students in the RUI Honors Academy) 3

CORE 201 Topics in Critical Inquiry 3
CORE 202 Topics in Ethical Inquiry 3

NOTE: Courses listed in multiple areas can only be used to fulfill a single area requirement.

Students can use only one course with their major prefix to fulfill core requirements.

*Honors students with no transfer elective credit will need three (3) additional hours for the total of 120 credits for graduation.

B. Core Skills & Knowledge (16 SH)

Biology (4 SH)

*BIOL 104 (Spring Only) 4

Mathematical Sciences (3 SH)
MATH 114, 116, 119, 121, 122, 125, 126, 132, 137, 138, 171: 172

Natural Sciences (4 SH)

Soil 110 3

Humanities (3 SH)

One of the following:

- CCST 110, 121
- CLSS 110 ENGL 200 HIST 101, 102
- PHIL 111, 112, 200 POSC 110 RELN 111, 112, 203, 206
- ART 100, 215, 216, CCST 266 DNCE 111 MUSC 100, 121, 123, THEA 100, 102
- ARAB 101, 112, 201, 202, 300 CHIN 101, 102, 201, 202 FORL 100, 209, 309, 409, 200
- FREN 100, 101, 200, 210
- 300, 320, 360, 380
- 101, 102, 201, 202
- 300 SPAN 101: 102, 103, 201: 202

Social/Behavioral Sciences (3 SH)

*PSYC 121 3

Visual & Performing Arts (3 SH)

One of the following:

- ART 100, 215, 216
- CVPA 266 DNCE 111 MUSC 100, 121, 123 THEA 100, 180

Global Perspectives (3 SH)
SOCY 121 is recommended 3

One of the following:

- CCST 110, CVPA 266 ENGL 201, 202
- GEOG 101, 102, 140, 280
- HIST 101, 102, INST 101, ITSEC 112
- PEAC 200 RELN 112, 205 SOCY 121
- THEA 180 WGST 200

A. National & International Perspectives (6 SH)

Courses must be from different disciplines:

B. Supporting Skills & Knowledge (9-11 SH)

Natural Sciences or Mathematical Sciences (3 SH)

STAT 130 or 200 3

Humanities, Visual & Performing Arts or Foreign Languages (3 SH)

Humanities or F.L. recommended 3

One of the following:

- CCST 110, CLSS 110
- ENGL 200 HIST 101, 102
- PHIL 111, 112, 200
- POSC 110 RELN 111, 112, 203, 206
- ART 100, 215, 216
- CVPA 266 DNCE 111
- MUSC 100, 121, 123
- THEA 100, 102
- ARAB 101, 102, 201, 202
- CHIN 101, 102, 201, 202
- FORL 100, 209, 309, 409, 200
- FREN 100, 101, 200, 210
- 300, 320, 360
- 101, 102, 201, 202
- 300 SPAN 101: 102, 103, 201: 202

Social/Behavioral Sciences or Health and Wellness (3 SH)

One of the following:

- ANSC 101 APST 200
- ECON 205, 206
- GEOG 101, 102, 103
- HIST 111, 112
- POSC 120 PSYC 121 RELN 205
- SOCY 110, 121
- HLTH 111, 200
- NUTR 214
- RCPT 200

Additional Requirement
ENGL 306 or 307 3

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

(Minimum grade of "C" required for all major and related courses except SOWK 289, which requires at least a "B")

Pre-professional courses 10 hrs.
SOWK 200 3 hrs.
SOWK 210 3 hrs.
SOWK 289 4 hrs.
SOWK 291 is required if SOWK 289 is transferred.

Professional Courses 39 hrs.
SOWK 300 3 hrs.
SOWK 301 3 hrs.
SOWK 320 3 hrs.
SOWK 321 3 hrs.
SOWK 350 3 hrs.
SOWK 422 3 hrs.
SOWK 423 3 hrs.
SOWK 424 3 hrs.
SOWK 489 12 hrs.
SOWK 490 3 hrs.

Related Requirements
PSYC 439 3
SOCY 250, 331 3
PSYC 250 3
PSYC 343 or 361 3

Free Electives 16 hours

Total hours required for Graduation: 120

GPA REQUIREMENTS
TO ENTER INTO SOWK
489 & 490
Major GPA 2.8
Overall GPA 2.7

GPA REQUIREMENTS
TO GRADUATE
Major GPA 2.8
Overall GPA 2.7

OFFICE USE ONLY:
Transfer Institution
Transfer GPA: __________________
**School of Social Work: Four-Year Academic Plan 2018-2019**

You should attempt to structure your course schedule as indicated in the following plan. There is flexibility within the course sequencing of the core curriculum requirements. There is also some flexibility in the Social Work classes for students transferring into Social Work. Students should always consult with their academic advisor before making changes to their planned schedule and must get permission to change the sequencing of Social Work classes.

**Freshman Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CORE 101</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*SOCY 110</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*PSYC 121</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social/ Behavioral Sciences or Health and Wellness</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
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**Spring Semester**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*CORE 102</td>
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<tr>
<td>*SOWK 200</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>*BIOL 104 (Spring Only)</td>
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<td>Visual &amp; Performing Arts</td>
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**Sophomore Year**

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CORE 201</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*SOWK 210</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Global Perspectives</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ENGL 306</td>
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**Spring Semester**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CORE 202</td>
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<tr>
<td>*SOWK 289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
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<td>Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 343 or 361</td>
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**Junior Year**

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<td>SOWK 300</td>
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<td>SOWK 350</td>
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<td>SOWK 320</td>
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<td>STAT 130 or 200</td>
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**Spring Semester**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOWK 321</td>
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<td>SOWK 301</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 422</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 439</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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**Senior Year**

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<td>SOWK 424</td>
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<td>SOCY 250, 331</td>
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<td>or PSYC 250</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<table>
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<td>SOWK 489</td>
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*All Prerequisites passed with grade of “C” or better, except for SOWK 289 which requires at least a “B”.

To graduate, a student must have a major GPA of 2.8 or higher and an overall GPA of 2.7 or higher.