Introduction

A social worker is professionally educated in order to help individuals, families, groups and communities solve a whole variety of problems that arise in the course of people’s lives--families dealing with substance abuse; elderly people suffering from Alzheimer’s disease; young people facing the crisis of AIDS or even a community that has suffered because of discrimination and violence--all everyday problems, yet widespread and serious. These are the situations that social workers are involved in 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 using those centering on working with people in order to solve or alleviate 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 50-plus 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. In addition, students may elect courses in child welfare, gerontology, international social work and crisis intervention.

The professional program in social work leading to the bachelors degree in social work consists
of three components: General Education, 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 720-hour internship that takes place in the senior year in a local 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:

- Addiction: alcohol and drug
- AIDS: counseling
- Aging: nursing homes and senior centers
- Child Welfare: adoption and foster care, day care of children, and residential treatment
- Crime and delinquency: institutions, probation, and residential treatment
- Family: preservation and support
- Housing: low income relocation
- Public assistance and supplemental security income
- Parenting skills and support for single parent families
- Youth service agencies

Social workers provide counseling and other related 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 counsel all with the problems that exist in the family
- place a special needs child for adoption
- provide counseling 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 highly structured curriculum, the emphasis upon building of counseling and problem-solving skills, and the involvement of the students in two internships, human service agencies look very favorably upon our graduates. Graduates of the RU social work program are strong competitors for positions, in part, due to their training and experience provided through internships. In addition, the School of Social Work offers the Masters of Social Work degree; highly qualified graduates of Radford’s undergraduate social work program may complete the MSW degree in one calendar year.

Social work majors have the opportunity for membership in two 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
Internships in the social work program offer a wide variety of experiential learning. Not only do students learn theories, concepts and methods, 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 actually 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 best suits his/her interest and expertise.

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. Qualified students will be given the opportunity to participate in two internships and then enter the profession as a generalist practitioner. This education, coupled with the extensive classroom related course work, 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.

Key to the demonstration of competencies is the Portfolio Project that involves each student in identifying knowledge and skills pertaining to the stated program objectives. Specifics about the Portfolio Project as an educational document are located in other documents.

The BSW program is offered through two sites: (1) the Radford University program located at Radford University, and (2) the Radford University program located at Virginia Western Community College in Roanoke, Virginia. 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 depending on the program. Each major must choose one program, under which to be admitted and graduate from, and must follow the policies and procedures for that program. Courses may be taken at either campus as arranged with a student’s 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 PSWK major through the Advising Center in 351 Waldron Hall. PSWK majors must take SOWK 200, SOWK 210 and then SOWK 289, following the pre-requisites for each course. During the semester that 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 and the Waldron College Advising Center.

Students must also apply to the upper division SOWK major (to be changed from PSWK to SOWK). Minimum requirements for admission to the SOWK major are as follows:

- Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.0;
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.7 across the following courses: SOWK 200, SOWK 210, Biology 102, Psychology 121, Sociology 110, English 102 and Anthropology 121
- Have successfully completed SOWK 200 and 210 with a grade of "C" or better; have received a grade of "P" in SOWK 289 or if applying while concurrently in that course, have received a mid-term evaluation of "P". Students who apply while in SOWK 289 will receive a provisional acceptance if all other academic requirements are met until they complete SOWK 289 with a grade of "P" or better.
- Complete the Official Application to the Major in Social Work and accompanying prerequisite documentation, and submit by the School of Social Work deadline. Application materials are located in the offices of the School of Social Work and in the Waldron College Advising Center.
- If admission interviews are conducted, a missed interview will result in the delay of further application review until the next review cycle.

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 advisor.

Students not accepted may remain PSWK majors and work with their 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 Office for review. Students are then sent a letter outlining any remaining requirements needed for graduation with the BSW degree.
School of Social Work: Four-Year Academic Plan

Students Entering RU 2003-2004 Academic Year  B.S.W. Degree  120 semester hours

Attempt to structure your course schedules as indicated in the following plan. There is flexibility within the course sequencing of the general education 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>Course</th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 121</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>SOWK 200</td>
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<td>SOCY 110</td>
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<td>ENGL 102</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>BIOL 101</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>SOCY 250 or PSYC 350</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 111, 112, 113 or 114</td>
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### Sophomore Year

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health and Wellness Course</td>
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<td>HIST 111, 112, 101 or 102</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON or POSC</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>SOWK 289</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 121</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PSYC 439</td>
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<td>ITEC 100</td>
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<td>SOWK 210</td>
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<td>Fine Arts elective</td>
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### Junior Year

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOWK 300</td>
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<td>SOWK 422*</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWK 320</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>SOWK 321</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM course</td>
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<td>SOWK 301</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 205 or 208 or 211</td>
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<td>SOCY 380</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 201, 202 or 203</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### Senior Year

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<tr>
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<td>SOWK 489</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 423*</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>SOWK 490</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWK 424</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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*These may be taken either during spring semester of the junior year, or fall semester of the senior year.*

SOCIAL WORK  2002-2003  NAME:
General Education Requirements (50)
Radford Main Campus

Advisor:

Area I COMMUNICATIONS (9 Hrs)
- ENGL 101 _______ 3 Hrs
- ENGL 102 _______ 3 Hrs
- MSTD 146, COMM 114, 337 or selected ENGL (see approved list) _______ 3 Hrs

Philosophy/Religion (3 Hrs)
- PHIL 111, 112, 113, or 114

Area VIII SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (12 Hrs)
- HIST 101, 102, 111, or 112

Area V International and Intercultural Studies (3 Hrs)
- ANTH 121 _______ 3 Hrs
- PSYC 121 _______ 3 Hrs

Area II FINE ARTS (3 Hrs)
- ___________ 3 Hrs

Area VI MATHEMATICS (6 Hrs)
- STAT 205, 208 or 211 ______ 3 Hrs.
- SOCY 110 _______ 3 Hrs

Area III HEALTH AND WELLNESS (3 Hrs)
- ITEC 100 _______ 3 Hrs.
- ECON 101, 105, 106 or POSC 110 ______ 3 hrs.

Area VII Physical & Natural Sci. (8 Hrs)
- BIOL 101 _______ 4 Hrs.
- BIOL 102 _______ 4 Hrs.

Area IV HUMANITIES
- ENGL 201, 202, or 203
- ENGL _______ 3 Hrs

SOCIAL WORK MAJOR REQUIREMENTS
(Minimum grade of "C" required for all major courses)

Pre-professional courses 9 hrs.
- SOWK 200 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 210 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 289 ______ 3 hrs.

Professional Courses 36 hrs.
- SOWK 300 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 301 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 320 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 321 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 422 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 423 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 424 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 489 ______ 12 hrs.
- SOWK 490 ______ 3 hrs.

Related Base Courses 9 hours
- PSYC 439 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOCY 250, 331, 426 or PSYC 250 ______ 3 hrs.
- PSY 343 or 361 ______ 3 hrs.

Research Related Course
- SOCY 380 ______ 3 hrs.

Free Electives 13 hrs.
(may include following SOWK classes)
- SOWK 410 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 421 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 425 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 440 ______ 3 hrs.
- SOWK 480 ______ 3 hrs.

Major GPA
Overall GPA
Transfer Hours
RU Hours
Total Graduation Hours
(A minimum of 120 semester hours is required for graduation.)
RADFORD UNIVERSITY BSW PROGRAM AT VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

Students who are accepted into the professional program at Virginia Western are extended the same
privileges as Radford’s on campus students and are obligated to the same rules and regulations, including
admissions and graduation requirements. The only differences lie in the courses transferred in Radford.
Students are encouraged to carefully read the articulation agreement between Radford University and
Virginia Western Community College.

Off campus students may use the library services at Virginia Western Community College. They are also
eligible for all inter-library loans and computer technology services.

Full time faculty from the School of Social Work teach the courses at the Roanoke campus. Some courses
will be offered via the virtual classroom i.e. teleconferencing. Students will also be afforded the opportunity
for direct discussions with students and faculty on the Radford campus through the use of teleconferencing.
The Social Work Club at both the Roanoke and Radford campuses work together on projects and events.

Each year off campus students are invited to the special programming done by the School of Social Work in
Radford. The faculty at the School value both programs and the students at both sites. The School of Social
Work is one school, divided only by geography, not by philosophy or purpose.

Radford University (RU) School of Social Work and the Mental Health Technology (MHT) program at
Virginia Western Community College (VWCC) have an articulation agreement that allows graduates of the
MHT program who chose to do so, to move into the Radford University BSW program as SOWK majors
following graduation from the Mental Health Technology Program of Virginia Western Community College.
The agreement considers the MHT major who becomes a SOWK major to virtually have been a PSWK
major while enrolled in the MHT program. Students who have earned the Associate in Applied Science
degree from VWCC and apply to become RU SOWK majors thus automatically become SOWK majors once
they are accepted to Radford University.

Students begin this process by electing the “Transfer Curriculum” of the MHT program. They begin their
course work by taking MH 100 Introduction to Mental Health, MH 101 Skills Training I and MH 102 Skills
Training II. They then enroll in an internship, MHT 290.

For complete details, see articulation agreement, Radford University/Virginia Western Community College
pertaining to Mental Health Technology majors and the requirements for the VWCC Mental Health
Technology major.

The policies and procedures for MHT/VWSW majors at this step are those of the Mental Health Technology
Program. The MHT student, in the transfer module, is only “virtually” a Radford University student as the
intent is to transfer but Radford University has not yet accepted them.

The policies and procedures for applicants to the Radford University Virginia Western Community College
BSW program at this level include acceptance by Radford University as a transfer student and successful
completion of SOWK 480 with a passing grade of "C" or higher. Students who will be attending on the RU
campus will be considered SOWK majors; students continuing to attend on the Virginia Western campus
will
The following is a description of Radford University’s (RU) requirements for the B.S.W. degree program in Social Work for a student who has earned an Associate of Applied Science (VWCC).

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Application for admission to the RU Social Work degree program offered on the VWCC campus in Roanoke is open to any student who has completed the AAS degree or who will have completed the AAS degree at least 30 days prior to the delivery of RU upper division courses to the VWCC campus.

Students who have completed at least 38 hours of courses as outlined in the General Education requirements for the B.S.W. degree. Students who attended another accredited institution of higher learning without earning an associate’s degree must complete the regular General Education requirement for RU semester hours). **Students who do not have at least an associate’s degree receive the lowest priority for admission into this degree program.**

STUDENTS MUST HAVE A CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.0 OR HIGHER TO BE ADMITTED TO THE PROFESSIONAL COURSES IN THE MAJOR, IN ADDITION STUDENTS MUST MEET OTHER ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS.

2. All courses taken at accredited institutions other than RU will transfer to this program only if a grade of “C” or better is received.

3. A minimum of 45 semester hours of the total program must be taken at RU and at least 30 of the last 39 hours for the degree must be taken at RU; at least 50 percent of the Social Work major must be RU courses (this requirement is satisfied with this degree program). The total program consists of a minimum of 120 semester hours.

4. The program requirements may be modified to conform to any changes in Radford University or the School of Social Work degree requirements. Any such revisions will be communicated to Virginia Western Community College by July 1 preceding the academic year in which the new requirement would take effect.

PLEASE NOTE: Any student wishing to graduate with honors from RU must complete 60 semester hours of credit at RU.

Program of Study:

The program consists of three areas:

- **a)** General Education requirements: 38 semester hours
- **b)** Social Work Major requirements 58 semester hours
- **c)** Additional courses: (as needed)

In the following list of requirements, term “transfer equivalent” refers to any course, taken at an institution other than Radford University, which is accepted as equivalent to the required course (e.g. ENGL 101) or
area (e.g. Speech). The Radford University Transfer Guide lists transfer equivalents for all Virginia Community College courses. The Registrar determines the transfer eligibility of other courses at Radford University.

I. General Education Requirements (38 semester hours minimum):

Transfer courses for General Education (38 semester hours)

Humanities (12 semester Hours):
- Transfer equivalent for ENGLISH 101 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for ENGLISH 102 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for SPEECH (3)
- Transfer equivalent for HUMANITIES (3)

Laboratory Science (8 semester hours):
- Transfer equivalent for BIOLOGY 101 (4)
- Transfer equivalent for BIOLOGY 102 (4)

Mathematics (6 semester hours):
- Transfer equivalent for STAT (3)
- Transfer equivalent for MATH/ ITEC (3)

Social Science (9 semester hours):
- Transfer equivalent for PSYCHOLOGY 121 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for PSYCHOLOGY 317 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for SOCIOLOGY 110 (3)

Health (3 semester hours):
- Transfer equivalent for HEALTH (3)

II. Social Work Major Requirements (58 semester hours)

Required base courses (6 semester hours):
- Transfer equivalent for PSYC 318 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for PSYC 439 or SOCY 443 (3)

Pre-professional courses (9 semester hours):
- Transfer equivalent for SOWK 200 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for SOWK 210 (3)
- Transfer equivalent for SOWK 289 (3)

Required base courses:
- SOCY 331 (3)
- SOCY 380 (4)

Professional courses:
SOWK 300  (3)
SOWK 301  (3)
SOWK 320  (3)
SOWK 321  (3)
SOWK 422  (3)
SOWK 423  (3)
SOWK 424  (3)
SOWK 489  (12)
SOWK 490  (3)

III. Additional courses/electives

VWCC courses:

PSY 220  (3)  ELECTIVE
MEN 221 (3)  ELECTIVE
MEN 222 (3)  ELECTIVE

RU courses (as needed to meet program requirements)

The following courses are recommended as program electives:
SOWK 421 (3), SOWK 425 (3), SOWK 480 (3)

NOTE:
120 semester hours of credit are needed to graduate from Radford University
To graduate with honors, a student must complete 60 semester hours at Radford University
## General Education: 38 semester hours

### Humanities: 12 semester hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 102</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(ENG 111)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(SPCH 105)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Humanities:

(Recommend ENG 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 251, 252, or 255/Fine Arts/Phil/Reln)

### Social Science: 9 semester hours

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 121</td>
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<td>(PSY 200,201,or 202)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 317</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(PSY 235)</td>
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<td>SOCY 110</td>
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<td>(SOC 201 or 202)</td>
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## Laboratory Science: 8 semester hours

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<td>(BIOL 101)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 102</td>
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## Mathematics: 6 semester hours

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAT</td>
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## Health and Wellness: 3 semester hours

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 110 or 116</td>
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## SOCIAL WORK MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

(Minimum grade of "C" required for all major courses)

### Required Base Courses: 6 VWCC hrs.

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 318</td>
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<td>(PSY 236)</td>
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<td>PSYC 439 or SOCY 443</td>
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<td>(PSY 215)</td>
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### Pre-professional courses: 9 VWCC hrs.

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<tr>
<td>SOWK 200</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(MEN 101)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 210</td>
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<td>(MEN 102)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 289</td>
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### Required Base Courses: 7 hrs.

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<td>SOCY 380</td>
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### Professional Courses: 36 hrs.

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<tr>
<td>SOWK 300</td>
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<td>SOWK 301</td>
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<td>SOWK 422</td>
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### Additional courses (to meet 120 total hours)

<table>
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<th>Course</th>
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## Major GPA

## Overall GPA

## Transfer Hours

## RU Hours

## Total Graduation Hours

(A minimum of 120 semester hours is required for graduation.)

Academic Advising Manual 2002-2003