Social Work

+ College for Public Health and Social Justice

Saint Louis University is a Catholic, Jesuit institution that values academic excellence, life-changing research, compassionate health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Founded in 1818, the University fosters the intellectual and character development of nearly 14,000 students on two campuses in St. Louis, Missouri, and Madrid, Spain. Building on a legacy of nearly 200 years, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to a higher purpose, a greater good.

OVERVIEW ///

The Saint Louis University School of Social Work was formed in 1930 and is currently housed within the newly established College for Public Health and Social Justice. It has been continually accredited since 1933 and is currently accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Built upon an unwavering commitment to social justice, the school is a leader in integrating social work practice and education with faculty members who have made substantial contributions to the profession. Our interactive teaching methods integrate community-based practice with classroom activities and discussions. Plus, small class sizes facilitate an atmosphere of intellectual dialogue that fosters relationships between students and faculty.

Master of Social Work

The Master of Social Work program requires 57 credit hours and prepares students to be advanced practitioners who, consistent with their chosen concentration, act as agents of change to promote individual and societal well-being and can engage in professional, evidence-based practice in a rapidly changing environment.

After completing the professional foundation course work, students focus their area of studies by selecting one of three concentrations: community and organization, clinical or applied behavior analysis.

Variable Course Delivery Formats

The M.S.W. program offers multiple course delivery formats to assist students who are working full- or part-time and for students who want to progress faster by taking additional credit hours per semester. Formats include the traditional 15-week format (2.5-hour classes, fall and spring semesters) and a 10-week format (3.5-hour classes, summer semester). Electives may also be offered in the following formats: two intersession periods of week-long classes, online blended classes or five consecutive Saturday sessions (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work

The Ph.D. in social work requires 72 credit hours and offers rigorous methodological and interdisciplinary training for social workers and related professionals.

This degree provides a solid foundation for an academic career or as a social work research scientist in practice or policy settings. The program has a strong interdisciplinary and methodological orientation.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS ///

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- 24 credit hours in the liberal arts

Note: The admissions committee considers several factors to determine a candidate's eligibility: academic achievement, strength of the undergraduate program, application information, personal statement, work experience, any graduate degrees earned, motivation, leadership and service. The undergraduate GPA is weighted with other criteria in the admissions process.
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FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The School of Social Work offers new and continuing students partial tuition remission and merit-based scholarships. Applicants who do not initially meet the scholarship criteria or who have applied for scholarship and are not awarded a scholarship may re-apply during their first semester in the program. Scholarship awards are made based on information in the admission application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

School of Social Work

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

• Unique combination of applied behavior analysis, criminal justice and social work all under one school and the public health connection under the college.
• Our commitment to social justice, evident in our curriculum and events, such as our Annual Social Justice Night.
• Ongoing relationships with community partners and the public health connection under the college.

Recognition:
Saint Louis University’s School of Social Work is ranked in the top 20 percent of social work programs nationally by U.S. News & World Report. The social work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and the college is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

Career Paths:
Possible careers include work in the fields of health care, mental health, school, child welfare, family services, criminal justice, gerontology, policy, advocacy, administrative and community development.

HIGHLIGHTS

• M. Dyan McGuire, Ph.D., J.D.: Race and gender bias in the criminal justice system; formal and informal decision-making behaviors
• Ashley M. Lugo, Ph.D., BCBA-D: Early intervention for children with autism spectrum disorder
• Monica Matthieu, M.S.W., Ph.D.: Mental health, trauma, suicide prevention, disaster mental health, veterans, military social work
• Michael Mancini, M.S.W., Ph.D.: Assessment and treatment of co-occurring health, mental health and substance use disorders, community mental health practice, qualitative inquiry, participatory action research and critical discourse analysis
• Brandy R. Maynard, M.S.W., Ph.D.: Social work practice with at-risk youth and families, etiology and developmental course of academic risk and externalizing behavior problems, evidence-based practice and translational science, research synthesis and meta-analysis
• M. Dyan McGuire, Ph.D., J.D.: Race and gender bias in the criminal justice system; formal and informal disputes
• Stephen Edward McMillin, Ph.D.: Evidence-based practice, management and policy in social work and health care organizations; maternal and child health/family support services; training and evaluation for community-based nonprofits; social work education
• Sandra Naeger, M.S.W., LCSW: Intimate partner violence, diversity, human behavior
• Susan Tebb, M.S.W., Ph.D.: Family caregiving, aging, yoga and mental health
• Sabrina W. Tyuse, M.S.W., Ph.D.: Social welfare policies, family policies, housing policies and persons with mental illness involved in the criminal justice system
• Michael Vaughn, Ph.D.: Etiology of antisocial behaviors, behavior genetics, juvenile psychopathy, drug abuse, psychiatric epidemiology, biosocial theory, prevention and treatment of adolescent problem behaviors
• Cara Wallace, Ph.D., LMSW: End of life care, transitions to care and the role of family in health care decision-making
• Norman White, Ph.D.: Developmental and life-course predictors and theories of delinquent and antisocial behavior; criminal careers; race and crime; communities and crime
• Alyssa Wilson, Ph.D., BCBA-D: Complex human behavior, physiological aspects of behavior therapy, assessment and treatment of behavioral addictions

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