

Master of
SOCIAL WORK



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STOCKTON | GRADUATE
UNIVERSITY | STUDIES



Master of Social Work | MSW

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The mission of Stockton's **MSW Program** is to educate social workers who are prepared for advanced-level practice with diverse individuals, families and communities. The program aims to produce graduates who understand the human condition and the commonalities that all people share, while respecting and honoring differences in personal and communal history, social class, race, color, ethnicity, culture, language, immigration status, gender, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, political ideology, religion and disability status. The curriculum focuses on developing practitioners who are able to develop an in-depth understanding of diverse world views; empower diverse people to expand their capacities, resources and opportunities; and advocate for policies and services that address social conditions that limit the quality of life for all people.

The Program is built upon a strong foundation of generalist social work practice values, knowledge and skills. Students are expected to understand and be able to apply an ecosystems perspective, the strengths perspective and empowerment practice theory. They develop a thorough acquaintance with the negative effects of oppression, discrimination, marginalization and other social forces that block people's ability to meet their basic human needs. They are expected to critically examine multiple theories, perspectives and approaches as they become acquainted with research literature and as they develop experience in agency practice.

Continuing the central focus of the undergraduate program, the **MSW Program** aims to produce graduates who have a lifelong commitment to upholding human rights, respecting human diversity and working towards social justice in their professional and personal lives.

Small class sizes, personal attention, exceptional interaction between students, faculty, staff and the surrounding community!



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

To be considered for admission to the MSW program, applicants must submit the following:

- Completed application. This includes essays in response to questions posed in the application;
- Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution (official transcripts from all colleges attended are required). Advanced Standing applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education;
- Adequate foundation in the liberal arts (at least 24 credits, as demonstrated in the transcript);
- Three letters of recommendation from persons who are familiar with the applicant's work (academic work, paid employment or volunteer work in social welfare); Advanced standing applicants must ensure that at least one of their letters of reference are from a BSW field instructor or field supervisor who can speak to the abilities in the field, or from a supervisor at a social work agency where they have recently been employed.
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0;
- An interview and/or a writing sample may be required;
- Candidates for whom English is their second language must submit English proficiency test results and scores through TOEFL, IELTS or ELS EAP Level 112;
- Facility in a second language (other than English) will be considered a strength in the applicant's file.

All of the above factors will be carefully weighed in the admissions process. Applicants with the strongest overall record in the above areas will be offered admission. Once available slots are filled, qualified applicants who were not able to be offered admission will be placed on a waiting list for slots that might open up.

MSW application for admission deadline:

Advanced Standing: January 30. **Traditional MSW Program:** January 30. Fall matriculation only for both programs.

Transfer Credit Provided that the courses sufficiently match corresponding Stockton courses, the University will accept up to nine credits for graduate work completed at an accredited MSW program at another college or university. Graduate credit will only be granted at the time of acceptance into the MSW program. Once students have matriculated at the University, students will be required to finish the remainder of the coursework at Stockton. Applicants who have satisfactorily completed an entire year at another accredited MSW program may be admitted to the second year of the traditional program. Applicants to the program should consult the Program Director about transferring in credits for specific courses.

Stockton's MSW program will not grant credit for life experience or previous work experience.



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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY | Office of Graduate Studies
101 Vera King Farris Drive, Galloway NJ 08205-9441

609.626.3640
gradschool@stockton.edu

The cumulative undergraduate GPA includes all of an applicant's college or university historical coursework drawn from all institutional transcripts on record. Once all transcripts are entered into the application, your cumulative GPA is calculated.

Please visit the Office of Graduate Studies website for the most updated information at stockton.edu/grad. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication, university policies and curricula may change.