Our mission is to engage students in an educational program that prepares them to think critically and evaluate practice and programs and contribute to the body of social work knowledge through active research. Students will be prepared to work effectively and collaboratively as professional social workers to enhance human well-being and promote economic, political and social justice in a diverse and global society. Using justice centered and community based practice approaches, the MSW program will prepare social work professionals at the advanced generalist level who can practice across a variety of social service settings.

Where We Know Your Name

- The Master of Social Work program is designed for working professionals seeking an Advanced Generalist degree.
- Classes offered Wednesdays 3:00 to 8:45 p.m., and Thursdays 3:30 to 9:15 p.m.
- Students are admitted each fall (approximately 40 admitted).
- Individuals with a bachelor’s degree in a field other than social work can be accepted as either a Full-Time (2-years) or Part-Time (4 years) Foundation student.
- Individuals with a BSW degree can be accepted as either a Full-Time (1 year) or Part-Time (2 years) Advanced Standing student.
- Students complete field placements throughout the program.

Social Work Profession

- Social workers are highly trained and experienced professionals.
- Social workers help individuals, families, groups, and communities restore or enhance their capacity for social functioning, and work to create societal conditions that support populations and communities in need.
- The practice of social work requires knowledge of human development and behavior, of social, economic and cultural institutions, and of the interaction of all these factors.
- Social workers help people overcome some of life’s most difficult challenges: poverty, discrimination, abuse, addiction, physical illness, divorce, loss, unemployment, educational problems, disability, and mental illness. They help prevent crises and counsel individuals, families, and communities to cope more effectively with the stresses of everyday life.

Information Courtesy: NASW

The Master of Social Work program is accredited by, and in good standing with, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Commitment

“St. Cloud State University’s Master of Social Work Program is unique for students who wish to become Advanced Generalist Social Workers, able to work in a number of settings. The MSW Program at SCSU features a diverse faculty who provide students individual attention as they gain the skills, knowledge, and values required in the Field.”

Dr. Gary Whitford Holey
Social Work Professor
MSW Program Director
A Sound Investment
With tuition costs under $13,000 for Minnesota and reciprocity students, you could earn a master’s degree in Social Work. Salaries are over a lifetime generally 32-percent higher with a master’s degree according to the US News & World Report.

Graduate assistantships will lower the cost significantly through eight credits of tuition reimbursement each semester and a $10,000 salary per academic year. Graduate assistantship possibilities available through the Master of Social Work program.

The St. Cloud State Distinction
- A 3:1 student-to-faculty ratio allows for a close working relationship with non-revolving faculty who hold the highest degree in their field
- More than 30 accreditations and memberships means SCSU is under scrutiny to uphold the highest standards.
- SCSU is the flagship institution in the MnSCU system. According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, job candidates from flagship public colleges and regional campuses are preferred to those with a degree from a private institution.
- Forbes named SCSU in the top 24% of colleges and universities based on student satisfaction, post-graduate success, student debt, graduation rate and nationally competitive awards in a 2013 ranking of “Top Colleges”.

Master of Social Work Courses
The program is offered in a cohort model with course work taken in a specified sequence.

Year One
SW 610. Social Work Theory and Framework (Summer)
SW 611. Generalist Social Work Practice I
SW 612. Generalist Social Work Practice II
SW 613. Social Work with Marginalized Populations
SW 614. Human Behavior in the Social Environment
SW 615. Field Placement I
SW 616. Integrated Practice Seminar I
SW 621. Social Welfare Policy
SW 622. Research I
SW 625. Field Placement II
SW 626. Integrated Practice Seminar II

Year Two
SW 630. Advanced Generalist Practice in Changing Communities
SW 631. Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
SW 635. Field Placement III
SW 636. Integrated Practice Seminar III
SW 641. Advanced Generalist Practice with Organizations
SW 642. Advanced Policy Practice
SW 645. Field Placement III
SW 646. Integrated Practice Seminar IV
SW 650. Mental Health in Social Work Practice
SW 670. Culminating Project
SW 699. Thesis (fall & spring)

Academic Questions
Dr. Gary S. Whitford Holey
MSW Program Director
Department of Social Work
Stewart Hall 237
Phone: 320.308.4880
E-mail: gswhitford@stcloudstate.edu

Admission Questions
Ms. Annette Day
Director of Graduate Admissions
Administrative Services Building 121
Phone: 320.308.2113
E-mail: graduatestudies@stcloudstate.edu

www.stcloudstate.edu/socialwork  www.stcloudstate.edu/graduatestudies