

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

DEPARTMENT OFFICE

130 Walter F. Gries Hall

Phone: 906-227-2706

Fax: 906-227-1212

Web Page: www.nmu.edu/departments/sociology

Department Head: Ira W. Hutchison • ihutchis@nmu.edu

Social Work Program Director: Billy P. Blodgett • bblodget@nmu.edu



Sociology and Social Work at NMU

The Sociology and Social Work Department offers major programs in sociology, sociology in liberal arts and social work. The department offers minor programs in sociology, social welfare, research analysis and substance abuse. The department also participates in an interdisciplinary social science major and the interdisciplinary minors in gerontology and international studies. (See this section, the "Interdisciplinary and Individually Created Programs" and "International Studies" sections of this bulletin.)

The sociology program at Northern increases the understanding of human social behavior. The program emphasizes both theory and methodology, particularly as these may be brought to bear on the study of human interaction, social institutions, or analysis of contemporary social problems. Students have the opportunity to investigate a variety of areas such as crime and deviance, family, minority groups, religion and social change.

The mission of the social work program is to prepare students for entry into beginning social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Students completing the social work program are uniquely prepared for generalist practice in the region of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and have developed a generalist practice base to continue their professional development through graduate study.

Northern's bachelor of social work program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

The BSW program has seven primary goals: (1) every BSW graduate shall be prepared for beginning generalist practice. All BSW students will be versed in content about practice with client systems of various sizes and types; (2) students shall be prepared to practice with diverse populations; (3) the program shall provide content about the contexts of social work practice, the changing nature of these contexts, the behavior of organizations and the dynamics of change; (4) the values and ethics that guide professional social work practice shall be infused throughout the curriculum and made evident in the operation of the social work program; (5) students shall be educated with an awareness of

their responsibility to continue their professional growth and development; (6) the program shall provide educational opportunities that reflect regional needs related to substance abuse and gerontology; and (7) the program shall promote an understanding of and application for a knowledge base in social welfare for students in other human service fields.

Student Organization

- Student Social Work/Sociology Organization

Department Facilities and Resources

The sociology and anthropology faculty have expertise in a range of areas within said fields. A full complement of library resources and audiovisual materials is available to students. The department also has microcomputer hardware and software enabling faculty and students to conduct complex applied research projects involving sophisticated data analysis and statistical procedures.

Social work program faculty members are fully qualified professionals with both practice and teaching experience. A wide range of community social work agencies cooperate with the program by serving as field instruction settings.

Department/Program Policies

Sociology

Students must receive at least a C- in any sociology course counted toward either a sociology major or the sociology in liberal arts major, and achieve at least a 2.50 grade point average in all sociology courses (NMU and transfer) counted toward either major.

Social Work Transfer Credit

Transfer credit for practice method and field placement courses at the 300 level and above will be granted only for course work completed at other Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited schools. As stipulated by the Council on Social Work Education, our program does not grant social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience.

Social Work Admission Requirements

The social work curriculum culminates in a BSW degree with an inherent “Human Behavior Cluster Minor.” Courses contained in the cluster minor are as follows: SO 101, PY 100, EC 101, BI 104, SO 208 (or other statistic course), SO 282, and PS 215. The first five courses may double-count as liberal studies requirements. All courses in the human behavior cluster must be completed or be in the process of being completed at time of admission into the social work program. A student must have a 2.50 grade point average in the cluster minor.

The social work curriculum contains three “lower-division” courses (SW 100, SW 230, and SW 240) that also must be completed (or be in the process of) prior to being admitted into the practice methods courses. A student must have a 2.50 grade point average in these courses and must maintain this minimum GPA for all social work courses (SW prefix).

Although a student may enroll in a few social work courses (SW 308, SW 331, SW 341) prior to applying for the upper division practice methods courses, the sequencing of courses becomes paramount. Practice methods courses (SW 370 and SW 372) are only offered in the winter semester prior to a student’s senior year. Consequently, application into these two courses only occurs in the fall semester (Oct. 1). Admission is restricted to qualified applicants and limited by faculty and field placement resources. Application forms will be provided through the social work program and may also be downloaded from the program’s Web site at www.nmu.edu/departments/sociology. A minimum grade of “C” must be earned in both practice methods courses. After the completion of these courses, students then enter the senior social work curriculum, where courses are scheduled into a one-day block, allowing ample time to complete the necessary field practicum requirements.

Retention Policy

Students in the bachelor of social work degree program must meet a set criteria for continuous retention in the program. Students must maintain a 2.50 grade point average in all course work applicable to the social work curricula, defined as all courses in the major, required minor(s) and other required courses. Students must provide evidence of compliance with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics and show progress toward possession of personal characteristics and competencies that personify the professional social worker.

Field Instruction

While completing the practice methods courses during the winter semester, students will also be required to submit their application for field placement (March 1). Necessary forms may be downloaded from the Social Work Web site at www.nmu.edu/departments/sociology. They may also be obtained from the social work

field coordinator. Students must complete a minimum of 400 clock hours of field instruction in their senior year (SW 480 in the fall and SW 481 in the winter). Schedules should be planned to allow for approximately 16 hours per week at the field site each semester. Students are expected to complete two consecutive semesters of senior field placement and will be admitted to placement in the fall term only.

Program Completion

Students must complete all course work comprising the social work curriculum as defined above with a minimum 2.50 grade point average, show evidence of compliance with the NASW Code of Ethics, be recommended by the BSW faculty and meet all other requirements established by the university for graduation.

BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS

Liberal Studies: Complete information on the liberal studies requirements and additional graduation requirements, including the health promotion requirement, is in the “Liberal Studies Program and Graduation Requirements” section of this bulletin (38-44).

Courses within each major that can be used to satisfy liberal studies requirements are listed with the Roman numeral (in brackets) that coincides with the liberal studies division the course falls under.

Sociology Major

This major is for students interested in careers that require an understanding of human social behavior. The program emphasizes both theory and methodology, and the major offers an opportunity to investigate a variety of areas such as crime and deviance, family, minority groups, religion and social change. The major is valuable in a variety of fields, including business, community work, corrections, government services, health services, public relations, research and social services. In addition, students who hold this degree are also well prepared for graduate study.

Total Credits Required for Degree	124
Liberal Studies	30-40
Health Promotion	2
Required Courses in Major	40
<i>Minimum of 24 credit hours must be at the 300 level or above.</i>	
SO 101 Introductory Sociology [IV]	4
SO 208 Methods of Social Research I [V]	4
SO 308 Methods of Social Research II	4
SO 407 Sociological Theory	4
SO 408 Survey Research Design and Analysis	4

SO 322 Social Class, Power and Mobility [IV] or	4
SO 351 Social Change [IV] or	
SO 355 Introduction to Social Psychology [IV]	
SO 312 Religion and Society or	4
SO 232 Marriage and the Family [IV] or	
SO 382 Health, Society and Culture or	
SO 412 Sociology of Education or	
SO 432 Seminar in Changing American Family	

Sociology Electives 12
Note: SO 113 cannot count toward the major.

Minor 20

Sociology in Liberal Arts Major

This major is designed for students who wish to get a liberal education but with significant content on sociological perspectives relating to social structure, social institutions and social inequality.

Total Credits Required for Degree 124

Liberal Studies 30-40
Health Promotion 2

Required Courses in Major 32

Minimum of 20 credit hours must be at the 300 level or above.

SO 101 Introductory Sociology [IV]	4
SO 262 Women, Men and Social Inequality or	4
SO 282 Minority Groups [IV] or	
SO 322 Social Class, Power and Mobility [IV]	
SO 312 Religion and Society or	4
SO 232 Marriage and the Family [IV] or	
SO 382 Health, Society and Culture or	
SO 412 Sociology of Education or	
SO 432 Seminar in Changing American Family	
SO 351 Social Change [IV] or	4
SO 355 Social Psychology [IV] or	
SO 407 Sociological Theory	
SO 263 Criminology or	4
SO 343 Sociology of Deviant Behavior or	
SO 473 Juvenile Delinquency	
SO 301 Urban Sociology or	4
SO 332 The Study of Population [IV]	

Sociology Electives 8
Note: SO 113 cannot count toward the major.

Minor 20

Social Work Major

Majors receive the bachelor of social work degree, which is recognized as the entry level credential for social work practice. Graduates are prepared as generalists for careers in mental health, health care, the court system, substance abuse and spouse abuse programs, among others.

Student interested in this major should refer to the program's admission and professional standards, retention policy and field instruction guidelines outlined above.

Total Credits Required for Degree 124

Liberal Studies 30-40
Health Promotion 2

Required Courses in Major 50

SW 100 Exploring Social Work	4
SW 230 Human Behavior and Social Environment I	4
SW 240 Social Welfare: Historical Perspectives	2
SW 308 Research Methods II	4
SW 331 Human Behavior and Social Environment II	4
SW 341 Social Welfare Policy Analysis	4
SW 370 Generalist Practice Methods I	4
SW 372 Generalist Practice Methods II	4
SW 440 Social Work and Social Policy	2
SW 461 Practice Evaluation I	2
SW 462 Practice Evaluation II	2
SW 472 Social Work and Diverse Populations	2
SW 473 Integrative Seminar I	2
SW 474 Integrative Seminar II	2
SW 480 Field Instruction I	4
SW 481 Field Instruction II	4

Human Behavior Cluster Minor* 28

SO 101 Introductory Sociology [IV]	4
BI 104 Human Biology [III]	4
PY 100L, S, or H Psychology as a Natural Science [III] or	4
PY 100G Psychology as a Social Science [IV]	
SO 282 Minority Groups [IV]	4
SO 208 Research Methods I [V] (or MA 171 [V] or PY 305 [V])	4
EC 101 American Economy [IV] or	4
EC 337 American Economic History [IV]	
PS 215 Introduction to Law	4

**Transfer courses must be at least two-credit equivalents for each course; electives from any discipline in the cluster may be used to satisfy the 28 credit hour minimum.*

MINOR PROGRAMS

Gerontology Minor

This minor introduces students to the aging process, concerns of older adults and the service delivery system. Students interested in this minor should declare it by the second semester of their junior year, have a plan of study approved by the gerontology program coordinator, and have it forwarded to the Degree Audits Office. For additional information about this minor, contact Patricia Cianciolo at pciancio@nmu.edu.

Total Credits Required for Minor 22

Gerontology Core 5-8

GRN 101 Introduction to Gerontology (4 cr.)
 GRN 490 Gerontology Field Placement* (1-4 cr.)
 GRN 001 Gerontology Internship Completion (0 cr.)

Program Electives 10

Choose from the following:

BI 225 Physiology of Aging (3 cr.) or
 HL 211 Health Aspects of Aging (3 cr.)
 CD 460 Aging and Cognition (3 cr.)
 SO 201 Sociology of Aging (4 cr.)
 SW 405 Aging Public Policies and Programs (4 cr.)

Electives 4-7

Choose from the following:

HL 213 Death Education (2 cr.)
 PL 185 Issues in Medical Ethics (2 cr.)
 PY 353 Aging in the Family (4 cr.)
 PY 344 Lifespan Developmental Psychology (4 cr.)
 SO 382 Health, Society and Culture (4 cr.)

**Students in the gerontology minor must take at least 3 hours of field placement involving older adults. One of those hours must be GRN 490. The remaining 2 or more hours may come from a student's major or second minor. One field placement credit hour is equivalent to 50 clock hours, averaging between 3-4 hours in the field setting per week; four field placement credit hours is equivalent to 200 clock hours, averaging between 13-14 hours in the field setting per week.*

Research Analyst Minor

This minor is designed for students in a wide variety of majors who wish to develop significant skills in research, data analysis, interviewing, report presentation and report writing.

Total Credits Required for Minor 20

CIS 110 Principles of Computer Information Systems 4
 SO 208 Methods of Social Research I 4
 SO 308 Methods of Social Research II 4
 SO 408 Survey Research Design and Analysis 4
 SO 491 Internship in Applied Sociology 4

Sociology Minor

Total Credits Required for Minor 20

SO 101 Introductory Sociology 4

Sociology Electives 16

Eight credits must be at the 300 level or above.

Social Welfare Minor

This minor focuses on the institution of social welfare and the service delivery system. It is especially appropriate for students pursuing degrees in other human service curricula.

Note: Field instruction courses and 300-400 level practice method courses may not be included in the social welfare minor.

Total Credits Required for Minor 20

SW 100 Exploring Social Work 4

Program Electives 4-8

Choose from the following:

SW 230 Human Behavior and Social Environment I (4 cr.)
 SW 240 Social Welfare: Historical Perspectives (2 cr.)
 SW 331 Human Behavior and Social Environment II (4 cr.)
 SW 341 Social Welfare Policy Making (4 cr.)
 SW 440 Social Work Policy Analysis (2 cr.)

Program Electives 8-12

Choose from the following:

SW 401 Child Welfare (4 cr.)
 SW 405 Aging Public Policies and Programs (4 cr.)
 SW 411 Social Work in Health Fields (4 cr.)
 SW 412 Domestic Violence (4 cr.)
 SW 415 Addictions, Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention (4 cr.)
 SW 416 Substance Abuse Counseling (4 cr.)
 SW 417 Social Work in Mental Health (4 cr.)
 SW 421 Family Intervention in Social Work Practice (4 cr.)
 SW 495 Special Topics in Social Work (1-4 cr.)
 SW 498 Directed Study in Social Work (1-4 cr.)

Substance Abuse Minor

This minor is designed for students in human service-related professional programs. Students with majors other than social work must secure approval from the social work program director.

Note: This minor is currently suspended. New students will not be able to declare this minor until the suspension is lifted. If current minors are unable to complete the necessary courses due to limited offerings, allowance may be made for compatible course substitutions.

Total Credits Required for Minor 23

HL 485 Drug Use and Abuse 3
 SW 415 Addictions: Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention 4
 SW 416 Substance Abuse Counseling 4
 SW 412 Domestic Violence 4
 SW 421 Family Intervention 4
 PY 355 Abnormal Psychology or
 PY 455 Psychopathology (4 cr.) or
 SO 282 Minority Groups (4 cr.) or
 SO 343 Deviant Behavior (4 cr.)