

**ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIOLOGY**



**MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM  
2024-2025 PROGRAM HANDBOOK**

***Important Disclaimer:*** All information in the Master of Social Work Program Handbook is presented for ***informational purposes only*** and ***does not constitute a contractual agreement***, implied or otherwise. The information presented ***does not constitute formal advising***. Information contained within may not constitute the most up-to-date program or university information. Whenever in doubt, please consult with the Director of the M.S.W. Program.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIOLOGY

# **Master of Social Work Program Handbook**

ARCHER COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIOLOGY

124 Health and Human Services Building

Angelo State University

San Angelo, Texas 76909-1043

(325) 486-6426

**CHRISTOPHER M. SHAR, M.S., M.S.W., PH.D., ICAADC**

M.S.W. Program Director

**JACI WRIGHT, M.S.W., LCSW**

Social Work Field Education Director

# Table of Contents

<b>Section 1: Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Student Responsibility .....	1
Statement on Equal Educational Opportunity .....	2
Notice of Nondiscrimination .....	2
Statement of Accreditation .....	2
<b>Section 2: The University and the Department .....</b>	<b>3</b>
The University .....	3
The Department of Social Work and Sociology .....	4
The Department Mission Statement .....	4
<b>Section 3: Admission to the M.S.W. Program .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Program Admission Requirements .....	5
Qualifications for the Traditional Track .....	6
Qualifications for the Advanced Standing Track .....	6
Transfer Credit .....	6
Credit for Experience, Correspondence, Extension Courses, or Other Academic Training .....	7
Admission Decisions .....	7
Confirmation of Admission Acceptance .....	7
Communication Upon Admission .....	7
Waitlist Policies and Procedures .....	8
Initial Degree Plans .....	8
Program Options—On-campus and Online .....	8
Student Statuses—Full-time and Part-time .....	9
Program Tracks—Traditional and Advanced Standing .....	9
<b>Section 4: The Master of Social Work Program .....</b>	<b>10</b>
The Master of Social Work Curriculum .....	10
The Traditional Track Curriculum .....	11
The Advanced Standing Track Curriculum .....	11
The Generalist Year Sequence .....	12
The Specialization Year Sequences .....	13
The Advanced Generalist Specialization Sequence .....	13
The Clinical Specialization Sequence .....	16
Academic and Professional Advising .....	17
The Comprehensive Examination .....	18

**Section 5: The M.S.W. Curriculum ..... 19**

Generalist Courses ..... 19  
Specialist Courses ..... 21  
Elective Courses ..... 23

**Section 6: The Academic Policies of the M.S.W. Program ..... 25**

Academic Honesty ..... 25  
Academic Standing: Good Standing, Probation, and Dismissal ..... 25  
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ..... 26  
Artificial Intelligence and Its Use ..... 27  
Field Education Placements ..... 27  
Practice as a Student and the Use of Titles ..... 27  
Plagiarism ..... 28  
Recording of Online Class Meetings ..... 28  
Requests for Letters from the Dean ..... 28  
Requirement to Abide State Rules and Regulations ..... 29  
Student Rights ..... 29  
Student Absences for the Observance of Religious Holy Days ..... 29  
Substance Use ..... 29  
Technology Requirements ..... 30  
Title IX ..... 30

**Section 7: The M.S.W. Staff, Faculty, and Organizations ..... 32**

Social Work Staff and Faculty ..... 32  
The Social Work Community Advisory Committee ..... 33  
Student Social Work Organizations ..... 34  
Professional Organizations ..... 34

# Section 1

## Introduction

The M.S.W. Program Handbook is produced by the Department of Social Work and Sociology for the Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree program and is updated yearly. The Handbook is compiled by the M.S.W. Program Director in consultation with the faculty, representatives of the Community Advisory Group, and representatives of the Student Social Work Association at Angelo State University (ASU). The Handbook serves to inform current and prospective M.S.W. students about the nature of the program.

The policies, regulations, procedures, and fees in the Handbook are subject to change without notice, if necessary, to keep the program in compliance with:

- The current Angelo State University Graduate Catalog;
- Accreditation standards for M.S.W. programs required by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE);
- The rules and regulations of the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents;
- Applicable laws of the state of Texas; and/or
- The educational objectives of Angelo State University, the Archer College of Health and Human Services, the Department of Social Work and Sociology, or the M.S.W. program.

The program reserves the right to change curricula, rules, fees, admission prerequisites, and other requirements without notice. The provisions of this Handbook do not constitute a contract, express or implied, between any applicant, student, faculty member, or any other person, and Angelo State University.

## Student Responsibility

Each student is responsible for knowing program-specific guidelines contained within the Handbook and the academic regulations in the Graduate Catalog. Lack of familiarity with these regulations does not and will not constitute a valid reason for failure of their fulfillment. Such responsibilities include academic honesty, professional integrity, and student eligibility for course registration. All questions about program-specific guidelines, academic regulations, and/or student responsibilities while enrolled in the M.S.W. program should be directed to the M.S.W. Program Director.

## Statement on Equal Educational Opportunity

Angelo State University is open to all persons eligible for admission as students regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, mental or physical disability, or Vietnam Era or Special Disabled Veteran status. All students admitted to the university are treated without discrimination in regard to their participation in university educational programs or activities. The university is an equal opportunity employer and no applicant or employee will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, mental or physical disability, or Vietnam Era or Special Disabled Veteran status in regard to employment in the institution. The university does not discriminate on the basis of sex or disability in its educational programs. Any student with inquiries should contact the Office of Student Affairs (located on campus in the Harte Houston University Center, room 112, and accessible by phone at (325) 942-2047 or email at [studentaffairs@angelo.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@angelo.edu)).

## Notice of Nondiscrimination

Angelo State University does not tolerate discrimination or harassment based on or related to sex, race, national origin, religion, age, disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected categories, classes, or characteristics. While sexual orientation and gender identity are not explicitly protected categories under state or federal law, it is ASU's policy not to discriminate in employment, admission, or use of programs, activities, facilities, or services on this basis. For ASU's Notice of Nondiscrimination, please see: <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/title-ix/notice-of-non-discrimination.php>.

## Statement of Accreditation

The M.S.W. program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education to award baccalaureate and master's degrees. The Council on Social Work Education is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as the exclusive agency accrediting social work education for over 800 baccalaureate and master's degree social work programs in the United States and its territories.

The Council on Social Work Education may be contacted\* at 333 John Carlyle Street, Suite 400, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 or by calling (703) 683-8099.

Angelo State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degrees. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges may be contacted\* at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or by calling (404) 679-4500.

\* *The Council on Social Work Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges should be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support the university's significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard. Normal inquiries about Angelo State University, such as accreditation status, admission requirements, financial aid, educational programs, etc., should be addressed directly to the Department of Social Work and Sociology or Angelo State University, respectively.*



# Section 2

## **The Department of Social Work and Sociology at ASU**

Angelo is the community center for approximately 100,000 people located in West Central Texas between the Texas Hill Country to the southeast and the Rolling Plains to the northwest. San Angelo has a rich history, a thriving arts community, and many opportunities for outdoor entertainment. The local tapestry of history and culture provides a vibrant backdrop for ASU's campus, curriculum, and overall academic environment.

## **The University**

Angelo State University has been ranked by The Princeton Review as one of the nation's "Best Colleges" every year since 2010 and offers over 100 majors and concentrations through its six colleges: Archer College of Health and Human Services, College of Arts and Humanities, College of Education, College of Graduate Studies and Research, College of Science and Engineering, and Norris-Vincent College of Business. ASU has been designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education since 2010 and has been designated Military Friendly School by G.I. Jobs magazine every year since 2010.

The following are some "fast facts" about the university as of June 2024:

**Founded:** 1928

**President:** Lt. Gen (ret.) Ronnie D. Hawkins, Jr., U.S. Air Force, Class of '77

**Affiliation:** Texas Tech University System

**School Colors:** Blue and Gold

**Mascot:** Rams and Rambelles

**Motto:** "Fiat Lux," which is Latin for "Let there be light"

**Location:** San Angelo, a community of approximately 100,000

**Students:** 11,250

**Programs:** Over 100 undergraduate majors and concentrations and over 30 graduate programs at the master's and doctoral levels



## **The Department of Social Work and Sociology**

The Department of Social Work and Sociology offers undergraduate and graduate courses and degrees in social work and sociology taught by highly-qualified, experienced faculty. The undergraduate and graduate degree programs prepare students for a broad spectrum of careers in the public and private sectors that benefit from an understanding of people, culture, and society.

The courses emphasize contemporary theories, research, and the useful application of knowledge to current problems experienced by people individually and collectively. The curriculum is delivered in a variety of formats, including on-campus, online, and blended classes that utilize both face-to-face and online instruction.

Students have opportunities to participate in honor societies, field education, service-learning activities, and cutting-edge research on interesting and challenging topics. The learning environment is friendly, supportive, and individualized to facilitate each student's progress toward fulfilling personal aspirations and goals. Specialized training is available in advanced social work practice from advanced generalist and clinical perspectives.

## **The Department Mission Statement**

The mission of the Department of Social Work and Sociology is to provide professional social work and social science education to a diverse student body for a global society.

# Section 3

## Admission to the M.S.W. Program

Applications for the upcoming academic year are open from August 15th to February 15th for the upcoming academic year (e.g., applications for the 2025-2026 academic year would open in August 2024 and remain open until February 2025). If the program is not filled to capacity at the deadline date in mid-February, applications are accepted until the program reaches capacity., after which any interested applicants may be placed upon a waiting list in the case that an accepted applicant withdraws their application.

All dates, deadlines, and timelines discussed in the M.S.W. Program Handbook apply to the Department of Social Work and the M.S.W. program. Dates, deadlines, and admission requirements for other university offices may be different. Please see the webpages below for the M.S.W. program as well as the College of Graduate Studies and Research and the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for the timeliest posting of specific deadlines.\*

## Program Admission Requirements

The admission requirements for the M.S.W. program at ASU are as follows:

- Completed application to *Apply ★ Texas* (<https://www.ApplyTexas.org/>)
- Completed application to the M.S.W. program (via the department's student management portal)
- Admission to ASU College of Graduate Studies and Research
- B.S.W. from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (for the advanced standing track) or a B.A./B.S. in any discipline from a regionally-accredited college or university (for the traditional track)
- Unofficial transcripts for all previous undergraduate and/or graduate coursework (official transcripts are required once an applicant is granted admission)
- A qualifying G.P.A. for the intended track and cohort (see sections that immediately follow)

\* <https://www.angelo.edu/academics/programs/social-work-msw/>  
<https://www.angelo.edu/colleges/college-of-graduate-studies-and-research/>  
<https://www.angelo.edu/admissions-and-aid/paying-for-college/office-of-financial-aid-and-scholarships>

## Qualifications for the Traditional Track

### ***On-campus Cohort***

- An undergraduate G.P.A. of 2.50 or higher (on a 4.0 scale)
- A bachelor's degree in social work (B.S.W.) from a CSWE-accredited program earned five (5) or more years prior to date of application or a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) in any discipline from a regionally-accredited college or university

### ***Online Cohort***

- An undergraduate G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher on a (4.0 scale)
- A bachelor's degree in social work (B.S.W.) from a CSWE-accredited program earned five (5) or more years prior to date of application or a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) in any discipline from a regionally-accredited college or university

## Qualifications for the Advanced Standing Track

### ***On-campus or Online Cohort***

- An undergraduate G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale)
- A bachelor's degree in social work (B.S.W.) from a CSWE-accredited program earned within the past five (5) years

## Transfer Credit

Current graduate student applicants who seek to transfer and are in good standing with their current academic institution will be granted admission so long as the current academic institution is currently accredited by CSWE.

Students must adhere to the transfer credit policies of the graduate program to which they are admitted. Official transcripts showing the successful completion of the courses petitioned to be transferred must be on file in the College of Graduate Studies and Research. At least one-third of credits toward a graduate degree must be earned at Angelo State University.

It is the student's responsibility to:

- Make the request for transfer credit to the M.S.W. Program Director
- Obtain and supply the official transcripts for all requested courses
- Submit a copy of each course syllabus from the original school to the M.S.W. Program Director for the courses whose credits are to be transferred

## **Credit for Experience, Correspondence and Extension Courses, or Other Non-Academic Training**

Angelo State University does not allow the transfer or use of graduate credit earned by experience or by correspondence or extension courses to apply toward a master's degree. Further, the M.S.W. program does not accept non-academic training for transfer credit toward the master's degree (e.g., work experience, field education experience, continuing education credits, and life experience).

## **Admission Decisions**

M.S.W. program admission applications are reviewed 4 to 6 weeks after the College of Graduate Studies and Research processes *Apply★Texas* applications. All email correspondence from the M.S.W. program will be directed to the student's ASU email address assigned during the application process. Applicants must regularly check the ASU email address for any correspondence related to their application.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all application materials are submitted by the application deadline, including uploading unofficial transcripts. Applicants may monitor their application process from the student management portal. Incomplete applications will be marked as rejected with an explanation for rejection. Students may amend their applications during the review process. Please note that time taken for corrections or amendments could result in an application being placed on the waitlist.

### **Confirmation of Admission Acceptance**

After review of the completed application, applicants will be emailed a Confirmation of Acceptance, placed upon the waitlist (if the program has reached capacity), or denied admission. Those admitted to the M.S.W. program will be emailed a Confirmation of Acceptance, which must be completed within twenty-one (21) days to demonstrate intent to attend the program. Failure to meet this deadline may result in placement on the waitlist. Should admitted applicants choose not to enroll in the academic year for which admission was granted, they will need to reapply through *Apply★Texas* for the academic year in which they choose to enroll. This includes the additional incursion of any fees associated with the application process.

### **Communication Upon Admission**

In addition to possible Confirmation of Acceptance and Waitlist notifications, newly admitted students will be sent additional email messages about enrollment processes and upcoming orientations. All email correspondence from the M.S.W. program will be directed to the applicant's ASU email address. Applicants and newly accepted students are required to regularly check incoming email for university communication, especially from the Office of Financial Aid, the Department of Social Work and Sociology, and the College of Graduate Studies and Research.

## **Waitlist Policies and Procedures**

Once the program admits and confirms enough students to reach capacity, all subsequent qualified applicants will be placed on the waitlist. If seats become available, individuals on the waiting list are accepted into the program on a “first-come, first-served” basis. This means that waitlisted individuals will be considered in the order in which their applications were received via *Apply ★ Texas*. The Department of Social Work and Sociology will notify persons on the waitlist as/if positions become available via the applicant’s ASU email address.

Individuals on the waiting list not admitted for the upcoming academic year must reapply the following year, if they choose. Waitlisted individuals who reapply will be given priority review and acceptance for the upcoming year’s cohort.

## **Initial Degree Plans**

Approximately one (1) week after submission of the Confirmation of Acceptance, an initial degree plan will be emailed to incoming students. Degree plans provide a scheduled sequence of courses a student should take each semester throughout the duration of the program. A copy of each student’s electronically signed degree plan is uploaded into the student management portal and sent to the College of Graduate Studies and Research, per University Policy.

Degree plans are due two (2) weeks after being sent to the student. A reminder will be sent via ASU email including a new deadline should initial degree plans not be returned by the deadline. If no correspondence or degree plan is received by the new deadline, the Department of Social Work and Sociology will assume the applicant’s plans have changed and the applicant will be placed on the waitlist. Notification of change in application status will be sent to the applicant via ASU email.

Any changes made to the degree plan throughout the M.S.W. program may change the projected date of graduation. Adding, dropping, or failing a course may delay the date of projected graduation as much as one (1) year. Therefore, social work faculty cannot guarantee a specific date of graduation.

## **Program Options: On-campus and Online**

The M.S.W. program offers both on-campus and online program cohorts. There is not currently a hybrid option. Students select method of attendance at the beginning of the program and remain in that program option throughout the duration of the program. In cases of serious changing circumstances, decisions are made on a case-by-case basis. On-campus students attend all of their courses as well as the comprehensive examination in person at Angelo State University. Online students attend all of their courses online and may also take the comprehensive examination online. Any online student is welcome to take the comprehensive examination on-campus should they be able to make the trip to San Angelo on test day(s).

## **Student Statuses: Full-time and Part-time**

Students may attend courses in either a full-time or a part-time sequence. Like the program option, student status is selected when entering the program. Also similar, should the need arise, students switch from full-time to part-time or vice versa. However, due to the sequencing of courses and the semesters when courses are offered, changing to and from part-time status will lengthen the time it takes to complete the M.S.W. program. Full-time students typically complete the M.S.W. program in one (1) year for the advanced standing track or two (2) years for the traditional track. Part-time students typically complete the M.S.W. program in two (2) years for the advanced standing track or four (4) years for the traditional track. The faculty make every effort to assist students complete the program in as timely a manner as possible.

## **Program Tracks: Traditional and Advanced Standing**

### ***Traditional Track***

The traditional track is designed for individuals who have earned a baccalaureate in a field other than social work and introduces students to core theoretical concepts. The traditional track also refreshes those concepts to B.S.W. holders who may need reinforcement since being in the classroom (those persons who received their B.S.W. degree five (5) or more years before date of application). Finally, the traditional track helps those students or may not have fully understood the foundational concepts. The traditional track is typically completed in two (2) years of full-time study or four (4) years of part-time study. The complete qualification criteria are found on page 7.

### ***Advanced Standing Track***

The advanced standing track is designed for individuals already earned a baccalaureate in social work (B.S.W.) and are familiar with the core academic and theoretical concepts taught in social work foundation courses. Thus, they are not required to complete the foundational year of the M.S.W. program at ASU. The advanced standing track is typically completed in one (1) year of full-time study or two (2) years of part-time study.

# Section 4

## **The Master of Social Work Program**

Whether pursuing the advanced generalist or the clinical specialization, a thoughtful selection of advanced elective courses in conjunction with a well-chosen corresponding field education location can effectively build knowledge and skills sets across a range of social work practice opportunities, such as:

- Children, adolescents, and families
- Active military members, veterans, and military families
- Health and mental health settings
- Addictions and substance use disorders
- Gerontology and aging populations
- Social and community development

## **The Master of Social Work Curriculum**

The M.S.W. program's curriculum is designed to prepare graduate-level social work practitioners to work in a variety of areas including, but not limited to, child, adolescent, and family services; health and mental health; addictions and substance abuse; criminal justice and corrections; and gerontology and aging within a variety of community social service organizations. In addition, the M.S.W. degree also prepares graduates for state licensure (LMSW and LCSW) exams.

An emphasis is placed on the ecological perspective, providing students with an understanding of the reciprocal relationship between a person and the environment. The general intervention model serves as the template for engaging, intervening, and assessing clients. In addition, a range of theories are applied throughout the curriculum to offer students a variety of lenses through which social workers examine, interpret, and seek to improve human behavior through the course of the lifespan.



The first 30 hours of the M.S.W. program is comprised of the foundational knowledge, skills, and values of the social work profession and includes courses that examine theories of human behavior, policy history, policy analysis, advocacy, research, and practice with individuals, groups, organizations, and communities. This foundation comprises the fall, spring, and summer semesters of the first year of the program and is called the generalist year. It is meant to provide those students who do not possess a bachelor's degree in social work with the knowledge, skills, and values they would have obtained as an undergraduate student.

The second 36 hours of the M.S.W. program is comprised of advanced social work knowledge, values, and skills with an emphasis in either advanced generalist or clinical practice. The fall, spring, and summer semesters comprise the final year of the program and is called the specialization year. It provides the advanced training in social work knowledge, values, and skills required of graduate-level practitioners as well as prepares students for the LMSW licensing exam.

### ***The Traditional Track***

Traditional track students begin their program by taking the foundation year curriculum, which is identical for all students regardless of intended specialization. The purpose of this foundational year is to provide those students without a B.S.W. the necessary theoretical and practice-based knowledge upon which the advanced year is founded. It provides a thorough overview of the coursework students receive by obtaining a B.S.W. degree. Thus, the traditional track consists of two (2) years of study: the generalist year and the specialization year. Students must pass all generalist year coursework before taking specialization year coursework.

### ***The Advanced Standing Track***

Those students qualifying for the advanced standing track are assumed to be familiar and proficient with the foundational knowledge of theoretical and practice-based social work knowledge as demonstrated by the recency of obtaining their baccalaureate. As such, these students immediately begin the curriculum of their chosen specialization: advanced generalist or clinical practice. Therefore, the advanced standing track of the M.S.W. program consists of only one (1) year of study: the specialization year.

## The Generalist Year Sequence

The following sequence of courses constitutes the generalist year curriculum listed in the order in which each course should be completed. All courses must be taken in the sequence listed to graduate in the projected time allotted. The generalist year is designed to provide students with the foundational theory and practice knowledge that undergraduate students receive in a CSWE-accredited B.S.W. program. The first semester includes two courses that cover basic practice skills of working within micro and macro social work environments, one course in the social theories applied to the social work profession, and one course in the history of the profession and its policy initiatives. The second semester continues the study of social theories as applied to social work, introduces students to how research is utilized and performed, and initiates students' field education.

All students enrolled in the M.S.W. have the option of selecting a part-time or a full-time course of study. Both the part-time and full-time schedules are designed to present the foundational theories and skills before introducing more complex subjects and specialized topics.

Full Time Generalist Degree Plan	
<b>Fall Semester</b>	
SWK 6301	Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
SWK 6303	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities
SWK 6311	Human Behavior in the Social Environment I
SWK 6321	History and Philosophy of Social Work
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
SWK 6313	Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SWK 6335	Research for Practice
SWK 6337	Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum I
<b>Summer Semester</b>	
SWK 6305	Generalist Practice with Groups
SWK 6323	Policy Practice and Advocacy
SWK 6339	Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum II

Part-Time Generalist Degree Plan	
Fall Semester – Year 1	
SWK 6311	Human Behavior in the Social Environment I
SWK 6321	History and Philosophy of Social Work
Spring Semester – Year 1	
SWK 6313	Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SWK 6335	Research for Practice
Summer Session – Year 1	
SWK 6305	Generalist Practice with Groups
SWK 6323	Policy Practice and Advocacy
Fall Semester – Year 2	
SWK 6301	Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
SWK 6303	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities
Spring Semester – Year 2	
SWK 6337	Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum I
Summer Session – Year 2	
SWK 6339	Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum II

## The Specialist Year Sequences (Advanced Generalist and Clinical Specializations)

Traditional track students confirm their selected specialization at the end of the spring semester of their generalist year. Advanced standing students confirm their selected specialization at their time of application. While changing from one to another specialization is possible, it will extend program length.

### ***The Advanced Generalist Specialization Sequence***

The Advanced Generalist Specialization focuses on mezzo- and macro-level social work practice with an emphasis on policy and advocacy. This course of study does not ignore working with individuals in micro-level social work situations, but (as its name suggests) does emphasize the variety of situations, circumstances, and settings in which social workers may encounter throughout their careers, from school counseling and homeless populations, to substance abuse and elder care populations. The Advanced Generalist Specialization highlights an understanding of the political, economic, cultural, and social backdrops against which advocacy efforts and policy pursuits are made.

**Full Time Advanced Generalist Degree Plan****Fall Semester**

SWK 6361	Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
SWK 6365	Administration, Supervision, and Management
SWK 6360	Case Management in Medical Social Work
SWK 6383 OR SWK 6396	Children and Families in Social Work Practice OR Adult and Geriatric Mental Health

**Spring Semester**

SWK 6367	Practice and Program Evaluation
SWK 6369	Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations
SWK 6373	Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum I (250 hrs.)
SWK 6384 OR SWK 6385	Advanced Practice in Correctional Mental Health OR Mental Health Treatment in Social Work Practice

**Summer Semester**

SWK 6370	Macro Policy Analysis
SWK 6374	Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II (250 hrs.)
SWK 6375	Integrative Seminar
SWK 6382 OR SWK 6387	Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice OR Addictions and Treatment in Social Work Practice

**Part-Time Advanced Generalist Degree Plan****Fall Semester – Year 1**

SWK 6361 Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families

SWK 6365 Administration, Supervision, and Management

**Spring Semester – Year 1**

SWK 6367 Practice and Program Evaluation

SWK 6369 Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations

**Summer Session – Year 1**

SWK 6370 Macro Policy Analysis

SWK 6382 OR Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice OR  
SWK 6387 Assessment and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders**Fall Semester – Year 2**

SWK 6360 Case Management in Medical Social Work

SWK 6383 OR Children and Families in Social Work Practice OR  
SWK 6396 Adult and Geriatric Mental Health**Spring Semester – Year 2**

SWK 6373 Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum I (250 hrs.)

SWK 6384 OR Advanced Practice in Correctional Mental Health OR  
SWK 6385 Mental Health Treatment in Social Work Practice**Summer Session – Year 2**

SWK 6374 Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II (250 hrs.)

SWK 6375 Integrative Seminar

## **The Clinical Specialization Sequence**

The Clinical Specialization focuses on micro-level social work practice with an emphasis on working with individuals in clinical settings. This course of study does not ignore working with groups and organizations in mezzo- and macro-level social work situations, but (as its name suggests) does emphasize the direct practice with clients, focusing on evaluation, assessment, diagnosis, intervention, and evaluation of clinical work. The Clinical Specialization highlights an understanding of the profession in healthcare settings, mental health counseling, diagnosis of mental disorders, therapeutic intervention, and practice and program evaluation.

<b>Full Time Clinical Degree Plan</b>	
<b>Fall Semester</b>	
SWK 6362	Introduction to Direct Clinical Practice
SWK 6366	Healthcare Organization and Administration
SWK 6386	Clinical Assessment and Psychopathology
SWK 6383 OR SWK 6396	Children and Families in Social Work Practice OR Adult and Geriatric Mental Health
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
SWK 6364	Clinical Theory for Direct Practice
SWK 6367	Practice and Program Evaluation
SWK 6373	Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum I (250 hrs.)
SWK 6384 OR SWK 6385	Advanced Practice in Correctional Mental Health OR Mental Health Treatment in Social Work Practice
<b>Summer Semester</b>	
SWK 6372	Clinical Health Policy
SWK 6374	Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II (250 hrs.)
SWK 6375	Integrative Seminar
SWK 6382 OR SWK 6387	Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice OR Assessment and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders

Part-Time Clinical Degree Plan	
<b>Fall Semester – Year 1</b>	
SWK 6362	Introduction to Direct Clinical Practice
SWK 6366	Healthcare Organization and Administration
<b>Spring Semester – Year 1</b>	
SWK 6364	Clinical Theory for Direct Practice
SWK 6367	Practice and Program Evaluation
<b>Summer Session – Year 1</b>	
SWK 6372	Clinical Health Policy
SWK 6382 OR SWK 6387	Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice OR Assessment and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders
<b>Fall Semester – Year 2</b>	
SWK 6386	Clinical Assessment and Psychopathology
SWK 6383 OR SWK 6396	Children and Families in Social Work Practice OR Adult and Geriatric Mental Health
<b>Spring Semester – Year 2</b>	
SWK 6373	Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum I (250 hrs.)
SWK 6384 OR SWK 6385	Advanced Practice in Correctional Mental Health OR Mental Health Treatment in Social Work Practice
<b>Summer Session – Year 2</b>	
SWK 6374	Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II (250 hrs.)
SWK 6375	Integrative Seminar

## Academic and Professional Advising

All M.S.W. students will be advised by their faculty advisor prior to the start of each semester. Advising includes discussions of academics, professional development, and career development. Students will be assigned to a graduate faculty advisor in the Department of Social Work and Sociology at the beginning of their program and will remain with this advisor through graduation. Advising will take place twice per year, during the fall semester (to plan for spring semester) and during the spring semester (to plan for the summer semester and fall semester, if applicable).



## **The Comprehensive Examination**

In conjunction with the evaluation of field education placements, the comprehensive examination is one of two crowning overall assessments for students of the M.S.W. program. Colloquially referred to as the “comp exam,” this assessment is covered in depth during the Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum courses (SWK 6373 and SWK 6374) and the Advanced Integrative Seminar (SWK 6375). Students are required to purchase exam preparation materials through the University bookstore from which they will prepare and study. This exam fulfills two important functions: it assesses student competency in graduate-level social work education and prepares the student for the LMSW examination administered by ASWB.

# Section 5

## The M.S.W. Curriculum

The M.S.W. program at ASU has three groups of courses that form the overall curriculum: generalist courses, advanced generalist courses, and clinical courses. Both on-campus and online program options follow the same degree sequence with no qualitative content difference between the two cohorts beside the method of course delivery (i.e., face-to-face or online). As with any asynchronous online course, students must be self-motivated to successfully internalize the content as compared to on-campus counterparts.

### Generalist Courses

**6301 Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families** — This course provides a generalist practice overview of social work values, skills, and knowledge from empowerment and strengths-based perspectives. Areas of emphasis include solution-focused, cognitive behavioral, and task-centered approaches in the client context of individual and family-based treatment settings.

**6303 Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities** — This course provides an overview of macro-level community practice and involves the integration of theory, skills, and techniques in order to intervene with groups, organizations, and communities. Issues of social, economic, and environmental justice are integrated as part of macro-level social work practice.

**6305 Generalist Practice with Groups** — This course focuses on developing the knowledge, skills, and competencies related to facilitating group work in a variety of generalist social work practice settings. Students will learn a variety of group work aspects including theoretical approaches, stages of the group process, and the impact of member characteristics.

**6311 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I** — This foundation course examines the dynamics of human behavior in society from biopsychosocial, systems, and socio-environmental perspectives from birth to young adulthood. Also addressed are diversity issues with a strengths-based emphasis within a variety of client populations across the lifespan.

**6313 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II** — This foundation course examines the dynamics of human behavior in society from biopsychosocial, systems, and socio-environmental perspectives from young adulthood to end of life. Also addressed are diversity issues with a strengths-based emphasis within a variety of client populations across the lifespan.

**6321 History and Philosophy of Social Work** — This course examines the historical and current development of the social work profession and the social welfare delivery system, primarily in the United States. Course content emphasizes the effect of social policies on client systems at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Students conduct critical analyses of social problems, current policies, and service responses with a particular focus on the mutual relationships of policy, research, and practice when investigating the impact of social policy on diverse and vulnerable groups.

**6323 Policy Practice and Advocacy** — This course introduces foundational knowledge and skills in policy practice, including the policy making process and intervention techniques aimed at impacting and changing social welfare and public policies. Course content includes analysis of contemporary social issues, public policy, social welfare programs, and strategies for empowering diverse groups.

**6335 Research for Practice** — This course addresses the foundational concepts, principles, and methods of scientific inquiry, focusing primarily on quantitative research designs and data analysis for direct generalist and clinical practitioners. Students will be taught how to apply research methods to the problems of social work practice as well as prepare them to perform practice and program evaluation in their professional work.

**6337 Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum I** — This seminar facilitates integration of foundational field practicum and classroom learning through processing and discussion of field issues and situations. Students gain knowledge of and apply models of critical reflective practice, effective use of supervision, and ethical decision making. The course includes a supervised social work field practicum in a community agency or program related to current course work and requires a minimum of 200 clock hours at the agency. Application to field practicum is required. Practice experience and demonstration of foundational social work skills in an applied setting.

**Prerequisites:** Acceptance into practicum and satisfactory completion of 6301, 6303, 6311, 6313, 6321, and 6323.

**6339 Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum II** — The seminar facilitates integration of foundational field practicum and classroom learning through processing and discussion of field issues and situations. Students gain knowledge of and apply models of critical reflective practice, effective use of supervision, and ethical decision making. The course includes a supervised social work field practicum in a community agency or program related to current course work and requires a minimum of 200 clock hours at the agency. Application to field practicum is required. Practice experience and demonstration of foundational social work skills in an applied setting.

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of 6337.

## Advanced Generalist Specialization Courses

**6360 Case Management in Medical Social Work** — This course examines conceptual frameworks of the health care system and the role of the social worker within that system. Students will receive instruction on important social work perspectives on the health care system, including health care disparities and the impact of historical events on the manner in which contemporary medical health care operates. This course investigates the effects of the health care system from an individual (micro) to societal (macro) range of perspectives.

**6361 Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families** — This course takes an in-depth look at advanced practice with individuals, families, and small groups with a focus on assessment and intervention strategies and skills. Emphasis is placed on service delivery and empirically-based interventions using the general intervention model as a guiding framework.

**6365 Administration, Supervision, and Management** — This advanced practice course provides students with theories and skills needed for administration of direct service staff and management skills across a variety of human service settings with an emphasis on managing competing and limited resources. Course content addresses relevant theories and models of supervision and administration. Key skills are identified which will enable students to effectively manage and create resources, develop and impact organizational policies, and serve as effective administrators and supervisors.

**6367 Practice and Program Evaluation** — The scientific method in social work research is presented. The methods of empirical research for knowledge building, the role of research in theory construction, research designs and data analysis, and methods of practice and program evaluation are introduced. Students will apply quantitative and qualitative methods and analysis in order to gain knowledge and skills about practice and program accountability and effectiveness. Course content will focus upon evaluation of social work practice and programs including single system design, needs assessments, and process and outcome evaluation.

**6369 Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations** — This advanced practice course builds on prior course work and presents theories and key practice models of evidence informed social work interventions with diverse individuals and families. Course content focuses on engagement at each stage of the intervention process and will provide experiential learning through participation in case simulations, role plays, and other exercises.

**6373 Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum I** — This course facilitates experiential opportunities allowing for the integration of advanced field practicum and classroom learning through processing and discussion of field issues and situations. Course content includes assignments based upon advanced field social work topics, attendance to a weekly field seminar class, supervised social work field practicum in an agency setting. The field practicum includes practice in a community agency or program related to current course work. Students are expected to demonstrate advanced social work skills in an applied setting and

are required to complete a minimum of 250 clock hours in the agency and must receive a grade of “B” or better. **Prerequisite:** Acceptance into practicum.

**6374 Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II** — This course facilitates experiential opportunities allowing for the integration of advanced field practicum and classroom learning through processing and discussion of field issues and situations. Course content includes assignments based upon advanced field social work topics, attendance to a weekly field seminar class, supervised social work field practicum in an agency setting. The field practicum includes practice in a community agency or program related to current course work. Students are expected demonstrate advanced social work skills in an applied setting and are required to complete a minimum of 250 clock hours in the agency and must receive a grade of “B” or better. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of 6373.

**6375 Integrative Seminar** — Students will demonstrate their knowledge, values, and skills learned during the M.S.W. program by completing a comprehensive exam and integrative paper. Students will have three (3) attempts to successfully pass the comprehensive exam with a score of 70 or higher. Students will have one (1) attempt to successfully complete the integrative paper (with a score of 70 or higher). Students must receive passing grades (i.e., 70 or higher) for both the comprehensive examination and the integrative paper to pass the course and graduate from the M.S.W. program. Grading for the assignments and the course will be pass/fail.

## **Clinical Specialization Courses**

**6362 Introduction to Direct Clinical Practice** — This course provides a general overview of clinical practice with a focus on assessment, intervention, evaluation strategies, knowledge, skills, and theories needed as a clinical social work practitioner.

**6364 Clinical Theory for Direct Practice** — This course examines major psychotherapy and counseling theories applied in clinical social work practice.

**6366 Healthcare Organization and Administration** — This course focuses on healthcare administration. Topics include, but are not limited to, a historical overview, theoretical foundations, and history/policy review of developments. Also addressed within the course are the application of managerial concepts, healthcare practices, healthcare provider types, and the future of health services delivery.

**6367 Practice and Program Evaluation** — The scientific method in social work research is presented. The methods of empirical research for knowledge building, the role of research in theory construction, research designs and data analysis, and methods of practice and program evaluation are introduced. Students will apply quantitative and qualitative methods and analysis in order to gain knowledge and skills about practice and program accountability and effectiveness. Course content will focus upon evaluation of social work practice and programs including single system design, needs assessments, and process and outcome evaluation.

**6372 Clinical Health Policy** — This course focuses on the development and implementation of health and mental health policy.

**6373 Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum I** — This course facilitates experiential opportunities allowing for the integration of advanced field practicum and classroom learning through processing and discussion of field issues and situations. Course content includes assignments based upon advanced field social work topics, attendance to a weekly field seminar class, supervised social work field practicum in an agency setting. The field practicum includes practice in a community agency or program related to current course work. Students are expected demonstrate advanced social work skills in an applied setting and receive a grade of “B” or better. **Prerequisite:** Acceptance into practicum.

**6374 Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II** — This course facilitates experiential opportunities allowing for the integration of advanced field practicum and classroom learning through processing and discussion of field issues and situations. Course content includes assignments based upon advanced field social work topics, attendance to a weekly field seminar class, supervised social work field practicum in an agency setting. The field practicum includes practice in a community agency or program related to current course work. Students are expected demonstrate advanced social work skills in an applied setting and are required to complete a minimum of 250 clock hours in the agency and must receive a grade of “B” or better. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of 6373.

**6375 Integrative Seminar** — Students will demonstrate their knowledge, values, and skills learned during the M.S.W. program by completing a comprehensive exam and integrative paper. Students will have three (3) attempts to successfully pass the comprehensive exam with a score of 70 or higher. Students will have one (1) attempt to successfully complete the integrative paper (with a score of 70 or higher). Students must receive passing grades (i.e., 70 or higher) for both the comprehensive examination and the integrative paper to pass the course and graduate from the M.S.W. program. Grading for the assignments and the course will be pass/fail.

## **Elective Courses**

**6382 Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice** — This course provides a comprehensive framework of values, knowledge, and skills for spiritually sensitive, ethical, and culturally appropriate practice with diverse religious and non-religious clients. It examines spirituality as an integral piece of the strengths-based approach to social work practice. Students explore the beliefs, values, and social welfare applications across a range of religious and spiritual perspectives. Skills for spiritual assessment and spiritually sensitive practices include mindfulness, meditation, ritual and ceremony, forgiveness, spiritually sensitive administration, and engagement with community-based spiritual support systems.



**6383 Children and Families in Social Work Practice** — This course focuses on the characteristics, strengths, and needs of children and their families. Students will develop assessment and intervention skills needed to work effectively with a variety of issues related to children, parents, and family. Course content includes techniques such as child therapy, play therapy, behavioral contracting, cognitive behavioral interventions, and crisis interventions.

**6384 Advanced Practice in Correctional Mental Health** — A study of the interface of social work and the correctional system including offender rehabilitation. Topics include the roles of correctional personnel, crisis intervention, the assessment and treatment of juveniles and adults, special populations, casework in correctional settings, and the evaluation of treatment and rehabilitation programs.

**6385 Mental Health Treatment in Social Work Practice** — This course focuses on assessment and intervention with those experiencing acute and chronic mental health issues and disabilities. Course content addresses the delivery of services to various populations (children, adolescents, and adults), special delivery systems (community mental health and managed care), and a wide variety of problems. Additional topics include wellbeing, ethics, case management, treatment planning, and the use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

**6386 Clinical Assessment and Psychopathology** — An examination and application of the diagnostic criteria and epidemiological data found in the current edition Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. The use of initial and ongoing assessment data to formulate diagnostic hypotheses is of primary concern.

**6387 Addictions and Treatment in Social Work Practice** — This course examines substance addiction and substance use disorders in a variety of client populations. Students will investigate aspects that include (but are not limited to) theoretical approaches (including stages of change and the disease concept of addiction), assessment and diagnosis, best practices in treatment, and the impact of addictions and addictive behaviors on the client and others. Students will take part in experiential exercises to broaden understanding of and empathy for clients dealing with addiction and/or substance use disorder.

**6396 Adult and Geriatric Mental Health** — This course examines social work practice theories, multidimensional assessment, and intervention approaches applied to practice with adults, geriatrics, and their families. Diversity among adults and geriatrics will be emphasized, including discussion of the lifelong integration of personal experiences and client populations that range from adulthood to older adults and their families who are facing end-of-life issues.



# Section 6

## **The Academic Policies of the Program**

### ***Academic Honesty***

The university expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students will be expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their experiences in the classroom. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action. Procedures for discipline due to academic dishonesty have been adopted by the Texas Tech University Board of Regents and are published under the Section on Student Services and Activities in the University's Student Handbook. In summary, the Social Work Program's policy concerning academic honesty is consistent with Angelo State University's policy concerning academic honesty found in the University Graduate Catalog.

### ***Academic Standing: Good Standing, Probation, and Dismissal***

The standards for academic standing set by the College of Graduate Studies and Research and are intended to define the academic requirements for continuation of graduate study and are listed in the university's Operating Policy and Procedure 42.04 (accessible via <https://angelo.policystat.com/>). The three (3) types of academic status used by the College of Graduate Studies and Research are defined as:

- *Good Standing:* A graduate student with regular status is academically in good standing if his or her grade point average for all graduate work completed at Angelo State University is at least 3.00;
- *Probation:* When a regular graduate student's grade point average drops below a 3.00, the student is placed on academic probation. A graduate student who is granted provisional admission is considered to be on academic probation until the provisions under which the student was admitted are satisfied; and
- *Dismissal:* A regular status student who grade point average is 2.00 or lower may be dismissed from the College of Graduate Studies and Research. A student on probation, as defined above, may be dismissed from the College of Graduate Studies and Research if the student's grade point average is below a 3.00 during the probationary period or drops below a 3.00 in any subsequent semester. A graduate student whose performance is unsatisfactory on the first and second administration of the comprehensive examination may be dismissed from that graduate program if recommended by the appropriate department committee.

In addition to the standards of the College of Graduate Studies and Research, the M.S.W. program has set forth its own additional criteria related to academic standing, probation, and dismissal:

- *Failing and Repeating Courses:* Students are allowed to fail a maximum of two (2) separate courses throughout the duration of the M.S.W. program (i.e., receive a grade of D or lower). A failed course may be repeated once. If the course is not satisfactorily completed (a grade of C or better) when retaken, the student will be dismissed from the program. If three (3) or more courses throughout the duration of the M.S.W. program receive failing grades, the student will be dismissed from the program;
- *“C” Grades:* Students may receive two (2) “C” grades for courses throughout the M.S.W. program that they will not be required to repeat. Additional courses receiving a “C” grade must be repeated for a satisfactory (B or better) grade. Students who receive more than two “C” course grades and choose not to repeat one or more for a satisfactory grade will be dismissed from the program. See the next bullet point for a course-specific exception to this policy;
- *Field Practicum:* Due to the pedagogical and professional importance of the field education experience, two courses must receive a grade of “B” or better for the student to graduate from the M.S.W. program: SWK 6339: Social Work Foundation Field Seminar and Practicum II and SWK 6374: Social Work Advanced Field Seminar and Practicum II; and
- *Comprehensive Examination:* Students in the M.S.W. program are allowed three attempts to satisfactorily complete the comprehensive examination which is administered in the final semester of the program. Students who are unable to pass the comprehensive examination after three attempts are dismissed from the program.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs in the Houston Harte University Center, room 112 or by contacting the department via email at [ADA@angelo.edu](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu) For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Office of Student Disabilities Services’ web pages (<https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/>).

The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services Office of Student Affairs  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112  
(325) 942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

### ***Artificial Intelligence and Its Use***

Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, and others, are now being widely used in business and industry to assist with the development of written content within seconds. Some faculty members may choose to provide expert guidance to their students on how to use such tools in an ethical and responsible manner when completing their course assignments. **However, unless the instructor explicitly states in the course syllabus that students may use generative AI tools to develop content that is submitted as part of an assignment for a course, their use in that course is prohibited.** For more information, please see OP 10.26 Use of Generative AI Tools by Students.

### ***Field Education Placements***

The social work field education experience is administered by the Social Work Program's Field Education Director. According to the CSWE, field education, is the signature pedagogy of the social work profession in which students become socialized as a practitioner while integrating theory with practice. Its intent is to combine the theory of the classroom with the reality of the practice environment. Only social work majors may enroll in a social work field education course. Student placements in particular field settings are negotiated between the student and the M.S.W. Field Education Director. Please see the M.S.W. Field Education Manual for details about field education requirements and placements.

The Student Professionalism Review Committee is convened in cases when field placement instructors feel termination of a student's field placement may be warranted. The committee will be comprised of the Social Work Field Education Director and four additional faculty members that will hear any field related disciplinary or behavior problems to determine a programmatic resolution, which may (but not necessarily) result in a dismissal from field education or a dismissal from field education and from the M.S.W. program depending upon the circumstances involved. Students who are dismissed from field education may re-enroll in the course the following year.

### ***Practice as a Student and the Use of Titles***

M.S.W. students may practice social work if they are licensed to do so at their usual place of employment or in their private practice. A license to practice social work of any kind is required. Additionally, M.S.W. students may refer to themselves as a social worker if they are licensed to do so. Otherwise, students may refer to themselves as a social work master's degree students.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking previously produced work, ideas, etc., and presenting it as new. This includes one's own work. The act of plagiarism is considered to be literary theft. It is unacceptable to copy a piece of work verbatim without the use of quotation marks and the appropriate reference citation.

It is the student's responsibility to be aware of what plagiarism is (including self-plagiarism) as well as how to properly cite material using the most recent publication guidelines established by the American Psychological Association (currently 7th edition). It is expected that students will summarize and paraphrase ideas, giving appropriate credit to the source in both the body and the references sections of submitted work. Papers are subject to be evaluation for originality via *Turnitin*, *SafeAssign*, or other such software. Please consult the ASU Writing Center resources for more information. Students found in violation of plagiarism (whether intentionally or unintentionally) during the M.S.W. program may be subject to a variety of consequences including (but not limited to) a zero grade for the submission, a zero grade for the course, and/or dismissal from the M.S.W. program.

## **Recording of Online Class Meetings**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a United States federal law governing access to educational information and records, including identification of persons participating in educational venues. As such, no student is permitted to personally record or otherwise capture anything presented during online lectures or discussions (e.g., Zoom, WebEx, or Blackboard Collaborate) that include other students. This restriction includes any method that may be used to identify participants (i.e., video, audio, and audio/video). All video lectures and discussions are recorded by instructors and may be accessed throughout the semester via the course LMS. Students found in violation of this policy may be expelled from the program without warning.

## **Requests for Letters from the Dean**

The Texas Behavioral Executive Council allows master's degree students to apply for the LMSW licensing examination during their final semester of the program. Students must formally make the request for such a letter to the Director of the Master of Social Work Program in writing via university email.

To qualify for a letter to be written, students must meet the following criteria:

- Successful completion of the comprehensive examination with a passing grade (70% or higher); and
- A letter from an employer (current or prospective) on their company letterhead stating that employment (current or prospective) requires that the student schedule the licensing examination before graduation.

These criteria must be met prior to making the request to the Director of the Master of Social Work Program. Please take note that the letter from the Dean does **NOT ALLOW THE STUDENT TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION PRIOR TO GRADUATION**; rather, it allows the student to **INITIATE THE PROCESS OF SCHEDULING** the examination prior to graduation.

## ***Requirement to Abide State Rules and Regulations***

Students who have been admitted into the M.S.W. program are required to follow the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council and Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners Rules and Regulations found in the Consolidated Rule Book for Social Work (<https://www.bhec.texas.gov>). Violations of these rules and regulations will result in dismissal from the M.S.W. program.

## ***Student Rights***

Students have a right to study and work in a non-discriminatory environment free from harassment. The ASU M.S.W. program affirms and respects diversity and difference among students, faculty, field instructors, staff, and others involved in the program. Students have a right to appeal certain decisions and file grievances, including (but not limited to) admission decisions, academic and professional advising comments and recommendations, and so forth. If a student takes issue with a decision made by a social work faculty member, the student is directed to first discuss the issue or circumstance with the particular faculty, staff member, or administrator in question. If a resolution to the issue cannot be reached, the student is directed to address their appeal in writing to the M.S.W. Program Director. After the written appeal is received, a conference between the student and the M.S.W. Program Director will be scheduled as soon as possible to address the issue. If a resolution still cannot be reached, the student may appeal the decision in accordance with university policy through the proper channels (as listed in the University Graduate Catalog). In most cases, the decision of the M.S.W. Program Director is final; however, students are advised to follow ASU's appeal and grievance policies found in the University Graduate Catalog.

## ***Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days***

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing (email is acceptable) to the instructor prior to the absence. Please see Operating Policy 10.19 – Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day (accessible via <https://angelo.policystat.com/>) for more information.

## ***Substance Use***

Angelo State University does not condone the possession, use, or distribution of marijuana, LSD, other hallucinogenic drugs, or narcotics by anyone in any campus facility or during practicum or at an internship site. Additionally, ASU has established a drug free campus policy where the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of any drug, narcotic, or controlled substance is prohibited on campus or practicum or internship site by university policy and by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents as well as by state and federal statute. Any individual found in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to policy.

## **Technology Requirements**

Course syllabi, video lectures, and supplementary learning materials are all posted via Blackboard, ASU's learning management system. Online students are required to abide all technology requirements as their ability to access and participate course material depends on online access.

On-campus students are highly encouraged to possess the technology requirements listed below to ensure the ability to meaningfully participate in all supplemental coursework throughout the M.S.W. program. While on-campus students do have the ability to access computer technology supplied via student computer labs across campus, graduate students often find they engage in their studies at all times of day throughout the week.

It is the student's responsibility possess or have access to the listed technology requirements to access online learning resources.

- Computer using Windows 7 or later; or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- Latest version of Firefox, Safari, or Chrome (or other Chromium-based) Internet web browser
- High-speed Internet access (required for online conferencing, such as WebEx, as well as Internet-based testing)
- Ethernet adapter cable (required for Internet-based testing; wireless connections may intermittently drop, resulting in incomplete test submission)
- Webcam (required for online conferencing and Internet-based testing)
- Microsoft Office (or compatible Office suite software)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (or other PDF viewing software)

## **Title IX**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VIII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center at (325) 942-2371.



Any incidents involving sexual misconduct should be reported to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Jessica Gooch. You may submit reports in the following ways:

**Online:** <https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form>

**In-person:** Mayer Administration Building, Room 205

**Phone:** (325) 486-6311

**Email:** [jessica.gooch@angelo.edu](mailto:jessica.gooch@angelo.edu)

All staff and faculty members at ASU are mandatory reporters and must report incidents sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator.

**Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center at (325) 942-2371, the 24-hour Crisis Helpline at (325) 486-6345, or the University Health Clinic at (325) 942-2171.**

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State University's policy, go to the Office of Title IX Compliance (<https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/title-ix/>).



# Section 5

## **M.S.W. Staff, Faculty, and Organizations**

There are many people who contribute to the work, development, and success of the M.S.W. program across the campus and the community. While it is difficult to name everyone involved in process from application to registration to graduation and everything in between, the following pages list the persons with whom students are most likely to interact.

### **Social Work Staff and Faculty**

**Christopher Shar, Ph.D., ICAADC**

*Master of Social Work Program Director and Assistant Professor*

**Jaci Wright, M.S.W., LMSW**

*Social Work Field Education Director and Clinical Instructor*

**Taten Albright, D.S.W., LCSW**

*Bachelor of Social Work Program Director and Assistant Professor*

**Jason Aleman, Ph.D., LMSW**

*Assistant Clinical Professor*

**Joel Carr, Ph.D., LCSW-S**

*Doctor of Social Work Program Director and Associate Professor*

**Samuel Gallander, M.S.W., LCSW**

*Assistant Clinical Professor*

**Andrew Rivera, M.S.W., LMSW**

*Clinical Instructor*

**Ingrid Russo, M.S.W., LCSW**

*Associate Clinical Professor*

**Marie Salimbeni, Ph.D., LCSW**

*Assistant Clinical Assistant Professor*

**Anne Scaggs, D.Ed., LCSW**

*Departmental Online Support Coordinator and Associate Clinical Professor*

**Sandy Seidel**

*Department of Social Work and Sociology Office Coordinator II*

**Thomas Starkey, Ph.D., LCSW**

*Department of Social Work and Sociology Chairperson and Professor*

## ***The Social Work Community Advisory Committee***

The Community Advisory Committee consists of representatives of the San Angelo area community and the Angelo State University campus and serves a number of important functions for the Department of Social Work and Sociology. The functions of the committee include:

- Enlist the input, feedback, and support of knowledgeable professional social workers to enhance the direction and quality of the ASU social work program;
- Review components of the social work program and make practice-based recommendations;
- Provide feedback and suggestions about the master's program based on their understanding of the program, the needs of the local and surrounding communities, and experience with current students and graduates of the program.

Current voting members of the Community Advisory Committee are:

**Mike Childress**

*West Texas Boys Ranch*

[wtbrmike@wtbr.org](mailto:wtbrmike@wtbr.org)

**Jennifer Dube**

*Children's Advocacy Center of Greater West Texas*

[jdube@cacgreaterwtx.org](mailto:jdube@cacgreaterwtx.org)

**Roxann Sloan**

*Tom Green County Sherriff's Office — Crisis Intervention Unit*

[roxann.sloan@co.tom-green.tx.us](mailto:roxann.sloan@co.tom-green.tx.us)

Permanent non-voting members of the Community Advisory Committee include:

**Concho Valley branch chairperson**

*National Association of Social Workers, Texas*

**Region 9 director**

*National Association of Social Workers, Texas*

**Members of the Social Work faculty**

*ASU Department of Social Work and Sociology*

**President**

*ASU Student Social Work Association*

## **Student Social Work Organizations**

### ***The Angelo State University Student Social Work Organization***

The Student Social Work Association (SSWA) is an official ASU student-led organization which welcomes all students throughout the university to join on a voluntary basis. A social work faculty member serves as the faculty advisor and department liaison with organization's elected president. Regular meetings are held for students to discuss community activities as well as generate recommendations for the social work programs. SSWA is the primary mechanism for social work students to organize and have a voice in the department. All student members of the SSWA and department faculty are welcome to attend all meetings and sponsored events.

### ***Phi Alpha Honor Society***

The purpose of Phi Alpha is to facilitate engagement and relationships among social work students while fostering humanitarian goals and ideals. The organization endorses high academic standards for social work students and invites as members those students who have demonstrated academic excellence in their professional education. Both on-campus and online students are welcome to apply for membership. Admission criteria include:

- G.P.A. in the M.S.W. program of 3.25 or higher
- Good academic standing in the program
- Completion of 9 semester hours of M.S.W. program coursework

## **Professional Organizations**

The following are some of the major social work and social work-related organizations in the United States to which social work students and professionals commonly belong as members.

- ◇ American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy
- ◇ American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- ◇ American Board of Clinical Social Work
- ◇ American Council for School Social Work
- ◇ American Counseling Association
- ◇ American Mental Health Counselors Association
- ◇ American Psychological Association
- ◇ American Public Health Association
- ◇ American Society of Criminology
- ◇ American Sociological Association
- ◇ Association for Behavior Analysis International
- ◇ Association for Oncology Social Work

- ◇ Association for Veterans Affairs Social Workers
- ◇ Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
- ◇ Association of Pediatric Oncology Social Workers
- ◇ Association of Social Work Boards
- ◇ Clinical Social Work Association
- ◇ Council on Social Work Education
- ◇ National Association for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors
- ◇ National Association for Rural Mental Health
- ◇ National Association of Social Workers
- ◇ National Council on Family Relations
- ◇ National Organization of Forensic Social Work
- ◇ School Social Work Association
- ◇ Society for Research in Child Development
- ◇ Society for Social Work and Research
- ◇ Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care
- ◇ The Gerontological Society of America



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIOLOGY

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**2024 – 2025 ACADEMIC YEAR**

ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN ANGELO, TEXAS