MSW Curriculum Snapshot
Department of Children, Youth and Families

2-year (4 semesters)

Year 1
Semester 1 (Fall): 15 Units
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment (506)
- Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups (544)
- Science of Social Work (546)
- Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work (544)
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589A)

Semester 2 (Spring): 17 Units
- Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education (699A)
- Advanced Elective** or Option Course***

Year 2
Semester 3 (Fall): 12 Units
- Research and Critical Analysis for Social Work (506)
- Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth and Families (609)
- Social Work Practice with Children and Families Across Settings (610)
- General Elective*
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)
- Integrative Learning for Social Work Practice (588)

Semester 4 (Spring): 11 Units
- Social Work Practice with Children and Families Across Settings (610)
- General Elective*
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)
- Integrative Learning for Social Work Practice (588)

Total units needed to graduate 60

3-year (6 semesters)

Year 1
Semester 1 (Fall): 6 Units
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment (506)
- Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work (544)

Semester 2 (Spring): 6 Units
- Science of Social Work (546)
- Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups (544)

Year 2
Semester 3 (Fall): 12 Units
- Research and Critical Analysis for Social Work with Children and Families (608)
- Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth and Families (609)
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)
- General Elective*

Semester 4 (Spring): 11 Units
- Social Work Practice with Children and Families Across Settings (610)
- General Elective*
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)
- Integrative Learning for Social Work Practice (588)

Year 3
Semester 5 (Fall): 11 Units
- Social Work Practice with Children and Families in Early and Middle Childhood (613)
- Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education (699A)
- Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice (698A)

Semester 6 (Spring): 14 Units
- Policy and Macro Practice in Children, Youth and Family Services (627)
- Advanced Elective** or Option Course***
- Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education (699B)
- Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice (698B)
- Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations: Theory and Practice (611)

Total units needed to graduate 60

4-year (8 semesters)

Year 1
Semester 1 (Fall): 6 Units
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment (506)
- Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work (544)

Semester 2 (Spring): 6 Units
- Science of Social Work (546)
- Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups (544)

Year 2
Semester 3 (Fall): 9 Units
- Research and Critical Analysis for Social Work with Children and Families (608)
- Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth and Families (609)
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)

Semester 4 (Spring): 11 Units
- Social Work Practice with Children and Families Across Settings (610)
- General Elective*
- Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)
- Integrative Learning for Social Work Practice (588)

Year 3
Semester 5 (Fall): 8 Units
- Social Work Practice with Children and Families in Early and Middle Childhood (613)
- Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education
- Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice (698A)

Semester 6 (Spring): 8 Units
- Social Work Practice with Adolescents, Young Adults and their Families (621)
- Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education (589B)
- Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice (698A)

Year 4
Semester 7 (Fall): 6 Units
- Policy and Macro Practice in Children, Youth and Family Services (627)
- Advanced Elective** or Option Course***

Semester 8 (Spring): 6 Units
- Leadership in the Social Work Profession and Organizations: Theory and Practice (611)
- Advanced Elective** or Option Course***

Total units needed to graduate 60

Curriculum subject to change.

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•Sample General Electives
Global Violence Against Women (522)
Contemporary Family Therapy and Social Work Practice (602)
Substance Abuse (617)
Social Work Practice with Transition Age Youth (620)
Domestic Violence (666)
Social Work and the Law (668)
Media in Social Work (687)
LGBT Psycho/Social/Political Issues (696)
Department Specific Global Immersion (6xx)

•Sample Advanced Electives
Social Work in Early Care and Education Settings (623)
Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings (624)
Mental Health Practice with Children and Adolescents with Serious Emotional Disturbance (677)

Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPSC)
Program: Students who graduate from this program earn two credentials to be able to work in California school settings: a PPSC in school social work and a PPSC in child welfare attendance
Field placement: Requires a field placement with a minimum of 600 hours in a school during the second year
Required course: Social Work Practice in School Settings (614)
Contact: Steve Hydon, hydon@usc.edu

***Option Courses
An option offers the opportunity to students to customize their education by selecting two related electives in particular areas of interest that are crucial to the development and well-being of children, youth and families. An option is not required to complete the MSW program.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Option
Mental Health Practice with Children and Adolescents with Serious Emotional Disturbance (677)
and one of the following:
Contemporary Family Therapy and Social Work Practice (602)
Social Work Practice with Transition Age Youth (620)

Juvenile Justice Option
Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings (624)
and one of the following:
Social Work Practice with Transition Age Youth (620)
Mental Health Practice with Children and Adolescents with Serious Emotional Disturbance (677)

Military Social Work Option
Clinical practice with the Military Family (640)
and one of the following:
Clinical Practice with Service Members and Veterans (641)
Military and Veteran Policy and Program Management (650)

Public Child Welfare Option
Social Work Practice in Public Child Welfare (619)
and one of the following:
Social Work Practice with Transition Age Youth (620)
Social Work in Juvenile Justice Settings (624)