DOCTOR OF SOCIAL WORK (DSW)

Doctor of Social Work
Unit: Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work and Family Science (https://louisville.edu/kent/) (GK)
Program Website (https://louisville.edu/online/programs/doctoral/online-doctor-of-social-work/)


This program is completed entirely online (https://louisville.edu/online/programs/doctoral/online-doctor-of-social-work/).

The Doctor of Social Work degree is intended to prepare social workers to assume advanced professional roles such as master practitioner, educator, administrator, policy practitioner, or leader in settings where social workers practice. The degree program will educate social workers holding a master’s degree with at least two years of post-master’s experience to become future practitioner scholars in teaching and social service leadership.

The overall goal of the degree program is to offer advanced education, training, and mentoring to social workers holding a master’s degree with at least two years of post-master’s experience to become future practitioner scholars in teaching and social service leadership.

The integrated curriculum will equip students with both leadership and teaching skills so they will be able to assume either or both social service leadership and teaching faculty positions.

Admission Requirements

To apply to the Doctor of Social Work (DSW) program in social work, send the following materials by February 1 to:

Graduate School
Graduate Admissions
University of Louisville
Houchens Building, Room 105
Louisville, KY 40292

- Completed Graduate Admissions Application (http://louisville.edu/graduate/apply/) for Admission to the University of Louisville’s Doctor of Social Work (DSW) Program offered in the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work and Family Science
- Application fee
- Official transcripts from each college/university attended, and documentation of the receipt of a master’s degree in Social Work, e.g. MSW, MSSW, from a CSWE accredited program or international equivalent.
- Current Resume or Curriculum Vita
- Three letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicant’s work and/or academic ability and performance such as current or former supervisors and instructors

- A writing sample demonstrating the applicant’s writing and analytical ability
- Personal statement of goals for pursuing the Doctor of Social Work degree
- Two years of post-master’s degree social work experience
- An interview after review of submitted application materials
- Master’s GPA of 3.0 (note: applicants with a master’s GPA of below 3.0 showing potential for success as demonstrated in their other submitted application materials and/or in the interview for admission into the Doctor of Social Work program will be given consideration for admission)

1 Name change effective January, 2022.

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW 730</td>
<td>Social Service Leadership and Teaching &amp; Learning: History, Philosophy &amp; Current Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 731</td>
<td>Ethics, Equity, and Social Justice: Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 735</td>
<td>Program Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 736</td>
<td>Applied Social Service Leadership, Management &amp; Practice</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 737</td>
<td>Program Planning, Finance and Budgets</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 738</td>
<td>Social Work Teaching &amp; Learning: Theories, Methods &amp; Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 739</td>
<td>Teaching in Social Work: Course Design, Instruction &amp; Evaluation</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 740</td>
<td>Policy Analysis &amp; Advocacy: Contemporary Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 774</td>
<td>Implementation Science, Program Development, &amp; Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 775</td>
<td>Continuous Quality Improvement, Data Driven Decision Making, and Evidence Based Practice and Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 776</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>SW 777</td>
<td>Integrative Seminar &amp; Qualifying Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW 778</td>
<td>Thesis/Capstone project</td>
<td>6</td>
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Minimum Total Hours 44

Graduation Requirements

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 at program completion
- Successful completion of all courses in the curriculum plan
- Proficiency rating of at least 85% on the qualifying assessment
- Successful defense of a thesis or capstone project
- Completion of all school and university requirements for awarding of the degree
- Completion of the program within four years from the time of passing the qualifying assessment