

## MARS HILL UNIVERSITY SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

### REQUIREMENTS FOR A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK

In order to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Obtain formal admission to the social work program.
2. Meet requirements for beginning and advanced Fieldwork.
3. Obtain a grade of "D" or better in all social work courses.
4. Maintain an overall GPA of 2.5.
5. Complete general studies and all other degree requirements.

#### Formal admission to the social work program

1. Requirements
  - a. Completion of at least 40 semester hours toward a degree.
  - b. Completion of SW 215, Introduction to Social Work.
  - c. An overall GPA of 2.2.
  - d. Possession of personal qualities consistent with NASW Code of Ethics (See reference letter and personal aptitude for S.W. Profession).
2. Application Procedure

Application Packets are available in the Social Work Program office, 209 Founders Hall. A complete application packet consists of:

- a. Application for Admission to the Social Work Program form
- b. Three reference forms\*:
  1. At least one from a social work faculty member
  2. One from an agency volunteer or supervisor, if applicable, social work employer, or minister
  3. One from another MHU faculty member
- c. Self-Awareness Essay
- d. Current official college transcript

***\*NOTE: Transfer students: If you transferred from a social work or human services program, one of your references must be from that program.***

The student must complete each item in the application packet according to instructions. No incomplete packets will be considered. An incomplete packet will be kept on file until the packet is complete. Contact the social work department with questions.

3. Criteria for acceptance into the social work program
  - a. Submission of complete application packet by deadline date each semester.
  - b. Judgment of satisfactory essay by social work admissions committee.
  - c. A majority of “above average” and “outstanding” ratings on reference forms.
  - d. Judgment of suitability for professional social work. (This evaluation will be drawn from compilation of admissions packet.)

In addition, acceptance into the social work program will be based upon the social work admissions committee’s assessment of the student’s potential for graduating with a BSW degree, and the student’s interest and commitment to the pursuit of a career in the field of social services.

4. Time frames for admission application

Application Deadline

Student Notification Date

Spring semester - the week after Spring Break

Within a week of program interview

Summer term – mid-July

Transfer students – before the start of the enrolling semester

5. The admission decision

The social work admissions committee has responsibility for making decisions for acceptance into the program. The committee will be composed of faculty members and members of the Social Work Program Advisory Board. At least two committee members must agree in order for a student’s application to be accepted. The committee will review the application and will make a decision as follows:

- a. Approve as a social work major
- b. Provisional Acceptance - Approve on satisfactory completion of specified conditions
- c. Disapprove

A list of applicants and the decisions of the committee will be circulated to the entire social work faculty for review. If any social work faculty member has questions about any decision, he/she may request a second review of a particular applicant. A final decision on admission of the applicant in question will be made by a majority vote of the entire social work faculty and Social Work Program Advisory Board.

The student will be notified in writing of the committee’s decision. Acceptance as a social work major does not automatically guarantee acceptance into SW 361: Junior Field Internship.

6. Appeal of admission decision

If the decision is “disapprove,” the student may request a second review and may provide additional information for review by the committee. If the committee’s decision is still “disapprove” after the second review, the student may appeal in writing to the social work program director. The director may convene a committee of the entire social work faculty for further review. The student may appeal the social work faculty’s decision of “disapprove” to the Academic Dean.

The Dean’s decision will be final.

7. Successful completion (grade of “D” or better) of S.W. 215, Introduction to Social Work.

**MARS HILL UNIVERSITY**  
**Social Work Program**  
**Application**  
**Admission to the Social Work Program**

---

---

Personal Information Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Id# \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Box# \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

---

City State Zip

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_

---

City State Zip Permanent Phone#

\_\_\_\_\_ Age (for reporting purposes) \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Information

Classification: Freshman \_\_\_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_\_\_  
(28 hrs or less) (60 hrs or less) (90 hrs or less) (90 hrs or more)

Part-Time Student (less than 12 credit hrs per semester) \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

Number of credit hours completed \_\_\_\_\_

Transfer student from another college or university \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

Do you have another college degree? \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

major: \_\_\_\_\_ minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall GPA \_\_\_\_\_ (as of most recent completed semester)

Please explain any criminal charges. (**Note:** This does not preclude you from acceptance into the major, but helps in our planning for field.)

---

---

---

List Academic Distinctions and honors (memberships in college level honors groups, offices held, scholarships, awards)

List/Identify extracurricular activities; community activities; clubs, volunteer work, etc.

What are your future educational plans?

\_\_\_\_\_ I plan to work when I receive the BSW degree in \_\_\_\_\_ (specific field or area)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Work first and then continue graduate study for \_\_\_\_\_ degree  
\_\_\_\_\_ Immediately pursue graduate studies for \_\_\_\_\_ degree

\*\*\*\*\*

Checklist for Academic Packet:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Application for admission to social work program
- \_\_\_\_\_ Three reference forms (to include social work faculty member; agency or volunteer supervisor; social work employer, or minister; and another MHU faculty member. Do not use a relative as one of your references. *Transfer students coming from a social work or human services program: One of these references must come from your previous program*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Self-Awareness Essay
- \_\_\_\_\_ Current official college transcript

# MARS HILL UNIVERSITY SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

## Candidate's Personal Essays/ Self-Awareness

Admission to the Social Work Program requires completion of the following essay:

This paper should be typed, doubled spaced, 12 point font. It should be a minimum of four full pages and a maximum of eight full pages. The paper must be free of spelling, typing, and grammatical errors.

ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
----------------------------------

### *AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION*

- A. Who am I?
- Family background (family of origin & current family)
  - Employment/volunteer experiences (social work-related experience(s) should be highlighted)
  - Personal counseling involvement
  - Formal educational experiences
  - Extracurricular activities
- B. Who do others think I am?
- C. Who would I like to be?
- D. Why do I want to be a social worker?
- E. Where do I hope to be in five years?

### *SOCIAL WORK VALUES*

- F. What are my strongest beliefs or values?
- G. Place your personal goals in entering the social work profession with the context of the NASW Code of Ethics.

### *CONCLUSION*

- H. Any other areas you would like to address?

**BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK**  
**Suggested four-year schedule**

<b>FRESHMAN YEAR</b>			
<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	
FYS111	3	FYS 112	3
English 111	3	English112	3
Math107	3	Sociology111	3
HEA111	3	Natural Science111	4
Electives	3-6	Electives	3
Total credit hours	15-18	Total credit hours	16

<b>SOPHOMORE YEAR</b>			
<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	
Humanities	3	Humanities	3
Global Perspective	3	<b>SW 215 Introduction to SW</b>	3
Psychology111	3	Aesthetics	3
Electives	6-9	Electives	6
Total credit hours	15-18	Total credit hours	15

<b>JUNIOR YEAR</b>			
<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	
<b>SW 221 Evidence Based Research</b>	3	<b>SW 321 Practice II</b>	3
<b>SW 300 HBSE I</b>	3	<b>SW 331* Soc Welfare Policy:</b>	3
<b>SW 317 Practice I</b>	3	<b>Social Justice &amp; Human Rights</b>	3
<b>SW 361 Junior Internship</b>	3	<b>SW 400 HBSE II</b>	
Electives	4	I&I: World	3
		Electives	3-6
Total credit hours	12-16	Total credit hours	15-18

<b>SENIOR YEAR</b>			
<b>FALL</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	
<b>SW 325 Practice III</b>	3	<b>SW 500 Senior Internship</b>	15
<b>SW 332 Soc Welfare Policy:</b>	3		
<b>Analysis &amp; Advocacy</b>			
Electives	9		
Total credit hours	15	Total credit hours	15

**TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS = 128**

*\* Meets I & I: US requirement*

**MARS HILL UNIVERSITY  
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM**

**Social Work Faculty Reference Form**

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Semester/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Course \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Scale:     0 = Don't Know/Not Applicable  
               1 = Outstanding  
               2 = Above Average  
               3 = Average  
               4 = Below Average

Academic Aptitude and Performance

	0	4	3	2	1
Academic aptitude					
Classroom participation					
Motivation to learn					
Performance in course assignments					
Performance in course exams					
Self-discipline					
Writing skill					

(Adapted from model developed by Middle Tennessee State BSW Program).

## Individual Aptitude for the Social Work Profession

Ability to:

	0	4	3	2	1
act in assertive manner					
be flexible					
commit to integrity and practice of the Professional Code of Ethics including principles of integrity, propriety, competence, confidentiality					
develop/sustain individual relationships					
empathize with others					
endeavor for emotional maturity					
exercise respect for diverse populations					
maintain effective time management skills					
perceive others with a nonjudgmental attitude					
practice stress management					
regard service as the primary obligation of S.W. Profession					
relate to others in group situations					
respect right of others to practice self-determination					
strive toward physical health					
treat others with respect, fairness and courtesy					
work toward heightened self-awareness					



Summary of prospective BSW major's strengths:

Summary of student's areas of improvement:

Recommendation for admission:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I cannot recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work with the following provisions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Work Faculty Member

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**MARS HILL UNIVERSITY  
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM  
Agency, Employer, or Minister Reference Form**

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Scale:      0 = Don't Know/Not Applicable  
              4 = Below Average      3 = Average      2 = Above Average      1 = Outstanding

Ability to:	0	4	3	2	1
act in assertive manner					
be flexible					
commit to integrity and practice of the Professional Code of Ethics including principles of integrity, propriety, competence, confidentiality					
develop/sustain individual relationships					
empathize with others					
endeavor for emotional maturity					
exercise respect for diverse populations					
maintain effective time management skills					
perceive others with a nonjudgmental attitude					
practice stress management					
regard service as the primary obligation of S.W. Profession					
relate to others in group situations					
respect right of others to practice self-determination					
strive toward physical health					
	0	4	3	2	1
treat others with respect, fairness and courtesy					
work toward heightened self-awareness					

Summary of prospective BSW major's strengths:

Summary of student's areas of improvement:

Recommendation for admission:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I cannot recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work with the following provisions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Supervisor, Social Work Employer  
or Minister

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**MARS HILL UNIVERSITY  
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM**

MHU Faculty Reference Form

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Semester/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Course \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Scale:     0 = Don't Know/Not Applicable  
            1 = Outstanding  
            2 = Above Average  
            3 = Average  
            4 = Below Average

Academic Aptitude and Performance

	0	4	3	2	1
Academic aptitude					
Classroom participation					
Motivation to learn					
Performance in course assignments					
Performance in course exams					
Self-discipline					
Writing skill					

(Adapted from model developed by Middle Tennessee State BSW Program).

## Individual Aptitude for the Social Work Profession

Ability to:

	0	4	3	2	1
act in assertive manner					
be flexible					
commit to integrity and practice of the Professional Code of Ethics including principles of integrity, propriety, competence, confidentiality					
develop/sustain individual relationships					
empathize with others					
endeavor for emotional maturity					
exercise respect for diverse populations					
maintain effective time management skills					
perceive others with a nonjudgmental attitude					
practice stress management					
regard service as the primary obligation of S.W. Profession					
relate to others in group situations					
respect right of others to practice self-determination					
strive toward physical health					
treat others with respect, fairness and courtesy					
work toward heightened self-awareness					

Summary of prospective BSW major's strengths:

Summary of student's areas of improvement:

Recommendation for admission:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I cannot recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend permission to pursue a major in Social Work with the following provisions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MHU Faculty Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date