

# SOCIAL WORK

## The Programs

The School of Social Work offers:

- Advanced Children, Youth & Families Certificate (<https://catalog.millersville.edu/graduate/college-education-human-services/social-work/-advanced-children-youth-families-certificate/>)
- Expressive Arts Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (<https://catalog.millersville.edu/graduate/college-education-human-services/social-work/expressive-arts-post-baccalaureate-certificate/>)
- Home and School Visitor Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (<https://catalog.millersville.edu/graduate/college-education-human-services/social-work/home-school-visitor-post-baccalaureate-certificate/>)
- School Social Work Post-Master's Certification (<https://catalog.millersville.edu/graduate/college-education-human-services/social-work/school-social-work-post-masters-certification/>)
- Social Work, D.S.W. (<https://catalog.millersville.edu/graduate/college-education-human-services/social-work/social-work-dsw/>)
- Social Work, M.S.W. (<https://catalog.millersville.edu/graduate/college-education-human-services/social-work/social-work-msw/>)

**Bethel, Joyous;** Assistant Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., University of Oklahoma, 1981; M.S.W., Ibid, 1982; Ph.D., Barry University, 1997

**DeJesus, Bertha;** Assistant Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.S.W., Shippensburg University, 1998; M.S.W., Widener University, 2004; D.S.W., Kutztown-Millersville University, 2018

**Felizzi, Marc;** Associate Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., Delaware State University, 1978; M.S.W., Ibid., 1995; Ph.D., Widener University, 2011

**Foels, Leonora;** Associate Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.S., Webber College, 1988; M.S.W., Simmons College, 1993; Ph.D., Barry University, School of Social Work, 2007

**Frank, Jennifer;** Associate Professor  
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B.A., Millersville University, 1999; M.S.W., Ibid., 2009; Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College, 2017

**Girvin, Heather;** Associate Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., Dickinson College, 1992; M.S.S., Bryn Mawr College, 1995; Ph.D., Ibid., 2002

**Granruth, Laura;** Associate Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., Fordham University, 1984; M.S.W., Virginia Commonwealth University, 2001; Ph.D., Catholic University of America, 2009

**Ogongi, Wanja;** Associate Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., University of Nairobi (Kenya), 1991; M.S.W., West Chester University, 2005; Ph.D., Widener University, 2012

**Proctor, Curtis;** Assistant Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., University of Oklahoma, 1989; M.S.W., University of Iowa, 1992; Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, 2005

**Redcay, Alex;** Associate Professor  
College of Education and Human Services  
B.A., Truman State University, 2001; M.S.W., Southern Connecticut State University, 2008; Ph.D., Rutgers University, 2016

**Rice, Karen;** Professor  
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B.A., Millersville University, 1991; M.S.W., Temple University, 2000; Ph.D., University of Maryland, 2011

**Walsh, Kathleen;** Associate Professor  
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B.S.W., University of Maryland, Baltimore, 1996; M.S.W., Ibid., 1997; Ph.D., Ibid., 2015

**SOWK 500: 3-12 s.h.**

**Co-Op Ed Experience in Sowk**  
Co-Op Ed Experience in Sowk

**SOWK 501: 3 s.h.**

**Principles and Philosophies of Social Work**

Introduces the generalist model for practice, which serves as a base for subsequent social work courses and provides initial understanding of the needs and issues of special populations in relation to social welfare policies and services as well as social work practice. The course provides an introduction to the profession and the MSW program while helping to prepare students for their subsequent field placements. This course may be offered in multiple modalities.

**SOWK 505: 3 s.h.**

**Understanding Social Work Practices w Diverse Pops**

Focuses on issues of understanding human diversity, risk, societal power and privilege, including issues related to sexism, heterosexism, classism, ageism, religion and spirituality, cultural identity development oppression, risk, resilience and empowerment. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq. SWK/SOWK 501

**SOWK 510: 3 s.h.**

**Human Behavior in the Social Environment I**

Examines the life-span approach to human development, with a focus on the interaction between the individual's biopsychosocial functioning and the social environment. It considers the impact of micro and mezzo (i.e., families and small groups) systems on behavior, with particular emphasis given to populations considered to be at risk. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq or Coreq: SWK/SOWK 501.

**SOWK 511: 3 s.h.**

**Human Behavior in the Social Environment II**

Explores theories for understanding the behavior of individuals, social systems and communities. It examines traditional and alternative perspectives on the political, economic and institutional environments, and critically considers opportunity structures and how they deter and promote human. Students evaluate theory and apply it to social work practice situations. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 510.

**SOWK 515: 3 s.h.****Social Welfare Policy**

Furnishes students with the orienting knowledge and skills needed to examine social welfare policies and to understand their relevance to social service delivery and social work practice. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 501

**SOWK 520: 3 s.h.****Micro/Mezzo Social Work Practices**

Offers opportunities for applying and studying advanced generalist practice with individuals, families and groups. Students will learn and apply skills to their specific areas of interest, which enable development of individuals, families and groups in environment processes for improving social functioning. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 501; Coreq: SWK/ SOWK 530.

**SOWK 521: 3 s.h.****Macro Social Work Practice**

Conceptualizes macro social work as the profession that brings about social change. The course extends from understanding theories about communities and organizations to assessment and practice. Students will focus on analysis of the community as a social system, common strategies for producing change in community work, the nature of formal organizations as environments through which social services are provided in the community, and the knowledge and skills necessary to effect change within organizations. Students will examine the role of a macro social worker as program developer, program administrator and organization developer. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 520; Coreq: SOWK 531.

**SOWK 525: 3 s.h.****Research Methods**

Introduces research concepts, procedures for conducting research and their application to social work practice. Advanced knowledge of scientific inquiry, the ethics that guide research and the roles of social workers as researchers are also covered. Both qualitative and quantitative methods of collecting and analyzing data are given major attention. Students learn the procedure for developing a research proposal. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 501

**SOWK 530: 3 s.h.****Field Practicum 1**

Provides students with practical experience (200 hours) in supervised direct-service activities across all client systems, from the individual's level to that of the community. This initial field experience allows the student to apply theory and skills acquired in the generalist foundation areas while simultaneously fostering the development of a professionally reflective, ethical, knowledgeable and self-evaluating social worker. The course also includes a seminar where students discuss and process the field experience with faculty. Coreq: SWK/SOWK 520

**SOWK 531: 3 s.h.****Field Practicum 2**

Provides students with practical experience (200 hours) in supervised direct-service activities across all client systems, from the individual's level to that of the community. This initial field experience allows the student to apply theory and skills acquired in the generalist foundation areas while simultaneously fostering the development of a professionally reflective, ethical, knowledgeable and self-evaluating social worker. The course also includes a seminar where students discuss and process the field experience with faculty. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 530 Coreq: SWK/SOWK 521

**SOWK 601: 3 s.h.****Integrative Seminar**

Course builds upon the foundation content from students' B.S.W. programs. It serves as a "bridge" course to integrate B.S.W. learning in preparation for M.S.W. courses. The course provides opportunities for a review of competencies and related behaviors, with a special focus on ethics, policy and research. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prerequisite: Advanced Standing admission status.

**SOWK 602: 3 s.h.****Behavioral Health**

Enables students to understand and increase their ability to work with micro to macro aspects of mental health/mental retardation and substance abuse/dependence as bio-psycho-social-societal phenomena. This course will be offered in a blended distance education format. Prereq: SOWK 601 or completion of foundation year. Offered in spring.

**SOWK 604: 3 s.h.****Health Care**

Focuses on four content areas: 1) what the social worker's role is in different healthcare settings; 2) historic and current policies that affect healthcare services; 3) current research in various healthcare-related issues; and 4) international models of care. This course will be offered in a blended distance education format. Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531. Offered periodically.

**SOWK 605: 3 s.h.****Child Welfare**

Provides an in-depth study of the concepts, policies, practices and research in the field of child welfare and family and children services. This course will provide an introduction to the child welfare field, an overview of the development of services for children, a detailed examination of the provision of services and an exploration of the ethical implications of child welfare practice. This course will be offered in a blended distance education format. Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531. Offered periodically.

**SOWK 606: 3 s.h.****School Social Work**

Provides an in-depth study of the concepts, policies, practices and research in the field of school social work, examining policy, research, practice and human behavior content. This course will be offered in a blended distance education format. Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531. Offered periodically.

**SOWK 607: 3 s.h.****Emergency Mental Health and Trauma**

Provides an in-depth study of the concepts, policies, practices and research in crisis intervention during disasters. This course will provide an introduction to the disaster field, a detailed examination of the human service delivery systems and guidelines for attending to the emotional and mental-health needs of both disaster survivors and responders, using the Critical Incident Stress Management model. This course is offered online. Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531 or permission of instructor. Offered periodically.

**SOWK 608: 3 s.h.****Administration and Supervision**

This course is designed to expand students' knowledge of and skills in effective program management of human services organizations and to provide approaches for managing service programs effectively. Organizational and management theories and principles are applied to a range of human services. This course will provide students with an introduction to the knowledge and skills necessary to perform managerial and supervisory functions in public and private human service organizations, including those that have historically served populations at risk. It will examine the structure and processes of human service organizations, the process of management, and organization building. The course will also cover different supervisory approaches and techniques and consider supervisory challenges that arise in various practice settings. During this course, students will be provided with opportunities to build competencies. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 609: 3 s.h.****Introduction to Art Therapy**

This advanced elective course explores the principles and the techniques of art therapy and considers the usefulness of art therapy in providing alternatives and supplements to the customary verbal methods of intervention. Ways of working with clients at various stages of the life cycle, childhood through later adulthood, and with clients who are on different levels of psychosocial functioning are examined. Issues in art therapy are explored both cognitively and experientially. Previous training in the visual arts and artistic ability are not required. This course will meet 2/3 online and 1/3 in the classroom. Prereq or Coreq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 610: 3 s.h.****Adv Micro Practice & Assessment**

This advanced practice course, with heavy focus on clinical assessment, provides students with a conceptual framework for clinical social work practice with individuals. The course will emphasize assessing clients' systems at the micro level, with a particular focus on diagnoses, assessment and treatment of individuals. The course maintains a multicultural, strengths perspective and a focus on diversity, rural populations, and social and economic justice. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prerequisite(s): SWK/SOWK 531 or SWK/SOWK 601 (the latter may be taken concurrently).

**SOWK 611: 3 s.h.****Children and Youth At-Risk**

This course is an in-depth study of the concepts, policies, practices and research in the field of child services, including school social work and child welfare. In addition, this course will provide a detailed exploration and understanding of a range of at-risk children and youth populations and their families. This comprehensive understanding will assist practitioners to effectively conduct an assessment and develop a treatment plan listing evidence-based intervention strategies and/or prevention programs that will effectively meet the complex needs of at-risk populations and their families. The challenges and ethical dilemmas confronting social work practitioners working with at-risk populations and their families will also be addressed. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 614: 3 s.h.****Survey Devel & Measurement**

This advanced course prepares students with the skills to be critical users of a variety of types of measurement instruments, as well as gain experience in the intricacies of scale development, including psychometrics. Students will examine and determine scale reliability and validity. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 615: 3 s.h.****Advanced Social Welfare Policy**

Course introduces conceptual approaches to policy analysis and assesses selected social policies, programs, and services in the areas of income maintenance, health care and personal social services in accordance with these approaches and with specific reference to their impact on special populations. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prerequisite(s): SWK/SOWK 531 or SWK/SOWK 601

**SOWK 616: 3 s.h.****Leadership Dynamics in SW Prac**

Leadership theories and practices that are relevant to professional social work. The course prepares students for effective leadership practice in both formal leadership positions (i.e. administrative positions) and informal leadership (i.e. amongst colleagues). Students will be able to apply the course concepts to their work as advanced generalist practitioners at micro, mezzo and macro levels. Leadership issues and challenges within a multicultural context and variety of settings including nonprofit, public, for-profit, community-based, political, national and international organizations will be explored. Students will assess their own and others' leadership styles in order to build competence as leaders. Students will create an individual leadership development plan based on key leadership theories and models. Special emphasis will be placed on the need for evidence-based leadership practice and leadership for social and economic justice. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 617: 3 s.h.****Addictions in Field of SOWK**

This course will focus on the topic of addictions, preparing students to recognize and intervene when clients and their families demonstrate addictions problems in a wide range of social service agencies and host settings, such as child welfare, mental health, aging, schools, health care, corrections, and drug and alcohol programs. The course will examine the evolving models of alcohol and chemical dependency to the present day understanding of the disease model, including an examination of the neurobiology of addiction and basic pharmacology including medication assisted therapies. The concept of harm reduction is introduced. Using a case studies approach, students will develop assessment and intervention skills. The course will address professional issues including credentialing, confidentiality and ethics. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 619: 3 s.h.****Global Perspectives in SOWK**

Students will be exposed to global issues and understand how the institution of social welfare has developed in different regions of the world. The course examines globalization and its effect on social welfare and human need. As a way of understanding how different regions and countries have responded to human need, the course explores the specific areas of women in developing countries, street children and child labor, HIV in the developing world, and the plight of refugees. The role of international organizations, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the agencies of the United Nations, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in shaping international welfare policy and services will be examined. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 620: 3 s.h.****Advanced Practice with Groups and Families**

Course builds on the practice concepts learned during the generalist year, particularly in the SWK/SOWK 520: Micro/Mezzo Social Work Practice course. This course focuses on social work with groups and with families from a systems and ecological perspective. Emphasis is on strengths- and evidence-based family and group assessment and intervention strategies with diverse, complex families and groups. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prerequisite(s): SWK/SOWK 531 or SWK/SOWK 601 Corequisite(s): SWK/SOWK 630

**SOWK 621: 3 s.h.****Advanced Macro Social Work Practices**

Course builds on the practice concepts learned during the generalist year, particularly in the SWK/SOWK 520: Micro/Mezzo Social Work Practice course. This course focuses on social work with groups and with families from a systems and ecological perspective. Emphasis is on strengths- and evidence-based family and group assessment and intervention strategies with diverse, complex families and groups. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prerequisite(s): SWK/SOWK 531 or SWK/SOWK 601 Corequisite(s): SWK/SOWK 630

**SOWK 622: 3 s.h.****Military Social Work Practice**

This elective course provides students with specialized knowledge of working with military personnel, veterans and their families. Military social work is a unique service and intervention focus designed to help social workers enhance their overall knowledge and skill set in support of service women and men as well as their family and supportive care givers. Students will have opportunities to learn the history, theoretical underpinnings, and foundation and practical applications to specific client populations.

**SOWK 623: 3 s.h.****Narrative Therapy**

This elective course provides students with specialized knowledge of narrative therapy in clinical social work practice. Narrative therapy is a unique intervention designed to help clients express and re-author their life stories. This course focuses on narrative therapeutic techniques applied to working with individuals, families, and groups. Students will have opportunities to learn the history, theoretical underpinnings, and foundations of narrative therapy as well as the clinical applications to specific client populations. Through interactive practice activities, including the use of case studies, film, and roleplays, students will develop an understanding of narrative therapy as an empowering approach in working with diverse populations. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 624: 3 s.h.****From Hobohemia to Housing First: A Critical Reflection of Homelessness in the United States**

Provides students with an historical overview of homelessness as a social problem in the United States. Students will examine the disparate conceptualizations of homelessness over time and the individual, community, and policy approaches intended to address it. Emphasis will be placed on contemporary issues in homelessness service delivery. This course may be offered in face/face, blended, or 100% online formats (with asynchronous and/or synchronous components). Prereq: SOWK/SWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 625: 3 s.h.****Advanced Research Methods**

The focus of this course is on social work practice research paradigms, models and methods. Particular attention is given to the conduct of evaluation and assessments projects. This course also gives the student a more in-depth exploration of computer-assisted, qualitative and quantitative data analysis. This course may be offered in multiple modalities. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 525 or SWK/SOWK 601.

**SOWK 626: 3 s.h.****Traumatic Bereavement**

This course provides a framework for critical analysis of the dynamics of complicated mourning and traumatic loss. Students will recognize the manifestations of grief that has become complicated, and assess capacities for healthy resolution at the micro, mezzo and macro levels. Students will develop intervention strategies that are supported by research as well as recognize and identify theoretical underpinnings. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 627: 3 s.h.****SOWK, Sport & Mental Health**

Explore the connection between mental health and sport, as well as the role of social workers in intervening with athletes of all levels to address mental health issues clients may encounter or have developed as a result of athletic participation. Additionally, the course will review, critique and address current interventions with athletes, and will seek to focus on new and emergent evidence-based modalities of treatment for athletes. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 601 or permission of instructor.

**SOWK 630: 3,5 s.h.****Advanced Field Practicum 1**

Provides students with practical experience (250 hours) in supervised direct-service activities across all client systems, from the individual's level to that of the community. This advanced field experience allows students to apply theory and skills acquired in the generalist concentration areas while simultaneously fostering the development of a professionally reflective, ethical, knowledgeable and self-evaluating social worker. The course also includes a seminar where students discuss and process the field experience with faculty. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 531 or SWK/SOWK 601. Coreq: SOWK 620.

**SOWK 631: 3,4 s.h.****Advanced Field Practicum 2**

Provides students with practical experience (250 hours) in supervised direct-service activities across all client systems, from the individual's level to that of the community. This advanced field experience allows students to apply theory and skills acquired in the generalist concentration areas while simultaneously fostering the development of a professionally reflective, ethical, knowledgeable and self-evaluating social worker. The course also includes a seminar where students discuss and process the field experience with faculty. Prereq: SWK/SOWK 531 or SWK/SOWK 601. Coreq: SOWK 620.

**SOWK 640: 3 s.h.****Sp Topics:**

This course provides the opportunity for a range of topics to explore issues and concerns for the social work profession. Coreq or Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531.

**SOWK 641: 3 s.h.****Sp Topics:**

This course provides the opportunity for a range of topics to explore issues and concerns for the social work profession. Coreq or Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531.



**SOWK 642: 3 s.h.****Sp Topics:**

This course provides the opportunity for a range of topics to explore issues and concerns for the social work profession. Coreq or Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531.

**SOWK 643: 3 s.h.****Sp Topics:**

This course provides the opportunity for a range of topics to explore issues and concerns for the social work profession. Coreq or Prereq: SOWK 601 or SOWK 531.

**SOWK 679: 3 s.h.****Experimental**

Experimental

**SOWK 691: 1-3 s.h.****Independent Study**

An in-depth approach to an individually structured problem. Registration by permission.

**SOWK 700: 3 s.h.****Social Work Leadership I**

This is the first of a sequence of two courses on advanced leadership and management for Doctor of Social Work students. Students will glean a theoretical orientation to the study of organizations and leadership within organizations. This examination of theories will reflect the values of the social work profession and their application to social service systems, structures, and processes. Also explored will be theories of organizational change, organizational challenges, and organizational effectiveness. Within the context of social service organizations, leadership approaches and theories are also examined.

**SOWK 701: 3 s.h.****Social Work Leadership II**

This is the second course in the advanced leadership and management sequence. The focus of this course is on development of knowledge and skills for social work managers within the public and private social service sector. Additional attention will be given to leading in times of fiscal constraint, political changes, and workforce challenges.

**SOWK 704: 3 s.h.****Social Work Teacher-Scholar I**

This is the first of a sequence of two courses on social work teaching and scholarship for Doctor of Social Work students. The course will enable the students to critically examine seminal and contemporary works in pedagogy. The connection of these theories to social work teaching and learning will be a central component of this course, including particular emphasis on the historical evolution of social work education. The course provides students with an opportunity to explore seminal works from a historical perspective and critically evaluate contemporary theories of teaching and learning in social work. It is required preparation for the second course in the sequence in which students develop a unique and personal conceptual framework for their own teaching.

**SOWK 705: 3 s.h.****Social Work Teacher-Scholar II**

This is the second in a sequence of two courses about social work teaching and scholarship for Doctor of Social Work students. The course provides students with an opportunity to critically evaluate theories of teaching and learning, particularly in contemporary settings in social work. Students will craft a conceptual framework to guide their own career as instructors in a variety of social work settings, including undergraduate and graduate professional social work education. They will practice course planning and delivery along with program development and student/course/program assessment with attention to accreditation requirements. In addition, they will develop understanding of the roles of the social work teacher-scholar in academe and other settings.

**SOWK 710: 3 s.h.****Research Methodology****SOWK 715: 3 s.h.****Multivariate Stat Analysis**

Students will be able to apply univariate, bivariate, and multivariate statistics, analysis of variance and simple linear regression to the analysis of a social science data set. They will learn how to choose appropriate statistical analyses that answer research questions and hypotheses, conduct these analyses using SPSS, interpret their findings, and communicate their results clearly and effectively. Reserved for students in the DSW program.

**SOWK 720: 3 s.h.****Leadership/Teaching Praxis I**

Experiential two semester course designed to provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the course content from the program's first year's courses. Students will participate in supervisory leadership and/or teaching activities that provide experiential learning and application and integration of theory and skills acquired in earlier coursework. Weekly meetings are a required component of this course and the meetings will be facilitated by the faculty mentor to instruct, guide, and assess student's progress related to the leadership and/or teaching praxis.

**SOWK 721: 3 s.h.****Leadership/Teaching Praxis II**

Experiential two semester course designed to provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the course content from the program's first year's courses. Students will participate in supervisory leadership and/or teaching activities that provide experiential learning and application and integration of theory and skills acquired in earlier coursework. Weekly meetings are a required component of this course and the meetings will be facilitated by the faculty mentor to instruct, guide, and assess student's progress related to the leadership and/or teaching praxis.

**SOWK 725: 3 s.h.****Intervention Research**

Advanced research course introduces students to the five steps of intervention development, testing, and dissemination. Students will be given the opportunity to practice elements of these stages to master the strategies of implementing, documenting, and evaluating interventions that respond to social problems affecting systems of all sizes (e.g., individual, family, group, community).

**SOWK 730: 3 s.h.****Qualitative Analysis**

**SOWK 774: 3 s.h.****Comprehensive Seminar**

Students will engage in a collaborative learning experience in which they assess whether as doctoral students they have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary for proceeding with the development of a Doctoral Dissertation. Utilizing a phenomenon of interest, students will demonstrate their ability to conceptualize a clear and compelling research topic by organizing, presenting, and critiquing both theoretical and empirical knowledge related to the phenomenon. Further, students will identify areas needing further exploration as well as possible research methods to conduct the proposed research. The Preliminary Paper must demonstrate that the student has acquired a sufficiently broad understanding of the phenomenon of interest and indicate that the student is prepared to add to knowledge in the field through an independent in-depth study of a topic relevant to best practices in social work related to leadership, teaching, or both. Students will orally defend their comprehensive paper at Residency. The defense will include an overview of the phenomenon as well as a summary of the research question that could be employed should students continue with the same topic for their dissertation.

**SOWK 775: 3 s.h.****Dissertation Seminar**

Students will engage in a collaborative learning experience in which they explore different ways of knowing in social sciences. They will become familiar with a variety of theoretical perspectives and will practice integrating those theories with their professional social work practice as they work toward formulating a research question and identifying a relevant theoretical perspective from which to examine it in the upcoming dissertation. Ethical considerations in research will be examined, and students will become familiar with their institution's IRB process. Students will consider deeply the relationship between their education and their future roles as leaders and educators.

**SOWK 776: 1-3 s.h.****Dissertation I**

Over two semesters, students will work in close consultation with a faculty member to build upon the research question crafted in the Dissertation Seminar. They will gain institutional approval to conduct their independent research and will conduct the research under the supervision of the faculty member. A focus will be placed on the completion of a traditional dissertation in the context of the development of applied knowledge that will be relevant to the social work profession; as such, the student will develop components of the dissertation that may be published or presented in refereed venues. Pre-requisite: SOWK/SWK 775: Dissertation Seminar

**SOWK 777: 1-3 s.h.****Dissertation II**

Over two semesters, students will work in close consultation with a faculty member to build upon the research question crafted in the Dissertation Seminar. They will gain institutional approval to conduct their independent research and will conduct the research under the supervision of the faculty member. A focus will be placed on the completion of a traditional dissertation in the context of the development of applied knowledge that will be relevant to the social work profession; as such, the student will develop components of the dissertation that may be published or presented in refereed venues. Pre-requisite: SOWK/SWK 776: Dissertation I