

School of Social Work Master of Social Work

SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

is committed to a program of studies that is informed by a central concern for human rights, personal empowerment, community change, and social justice. It has as its foundation an analysis of power in relation to class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, age, and abilities. Incorporating critical social thinking, including structural, feminist and anti-racist analyses, the School focuses on social work in northern and remote areas, social work with Indigenous peoples, women and human service, and community practice and research. It continues to develop in collaboration with regional, national and global communities.

The Master of Social Work Program is available on a full-time or part-time basis and may be completed by a thesis or practicum. The MSW builds on the BSW by offering students an integrated research/policy/practice concentration in one of the key thematic areas: social work in northern and remote areas, Indigenous peoples, women and the human services, and community practice and research. The aim of the MSW is to provide students with advanced social work research, policy and practice skills. It is designed to enable students to pursue independent studies that will help them undertake a variety of responsibilities in management, policy formulation, program consultation, planning, advanced social work, clinical practice, and research within the human services

Accreditation: The MSW Program at UNBC is fully accredited and was granted the maximum 8-year re-accreditation by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) in June 2018. CASWE is a voluntary, national, non-profit association of university faculties, schools and departments that offer professional education in social work at the undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate levels.

There are two entry routes into the MSW at UNBC:

1. Entry from a CASWE-accredited BSW leads into the Advanced Year of the MSW Program.
2. Entry from a Bachelor degree in a related area and two years (24 months full-time equivalent) human service experience. Entry at this level begins with an MSW Foundation Year of studies.

MSW Foundation Year

Required Courses:

- SOCW 630-3 Communication Skills
- SOCW 631-3 Critical Social Work Practice
- SOCW 632-9* MSW Practicum I
- SOCW 633-3 Critical Social Policy
- SOCW 634-3 Social Work Research/Policy/Practice
- SOCW 635-3 Social Work Philosophy and Ethics
- SOCW 637-3* Advanced Practice Methods Two 600 level Social Work electives

*Co-requisites

After completing the Foundation Year, students complete the MSW Program requirements as described below.

SOCW 634-3 must be successfully completed prior to registration in SOCW 609-3 and HHSC 703-3

MSW PROGRAM

The Master of Social Work Program requires the successful completion of 33 credit hours of course work including a practicum or thesis. The MSW course requirements appear below.

Required Courses for Thesis route:

- SOCW 602-3** Indigenous Peoples: Advanced Social Work Practice
- SOCW 609-3 Advanced Quantitative Research
- HHSC 703-3 Advanced Qualitative Research Approaches in Health and Human Sciences
- SOCW 704-3 MSW Integrative Seminar
- SOCW 700-12 MSW Thesis

Required Courses for Practicum route:

- SOCW 602-3** Indigenous Peoples: Advanced Social Work Practice
- SOCW 609-3 Advanced Quantitative Research
- HHSC 703-3 Advanced Qualitative Research Approaches in Health and Human Sciences
- SOCW 704-3 MSW Integrative Seminar
- SOCW 732-9 MSW Practicum II

All students must take at least one of the following courses:

- SOCW 601-3 Issues in Northern/Remote Social Work
- SOCW 603-3 Women: Policy/Practice Issues
- SOCW 605-3 Community Work/Politics of Change

Elective Courses***

- **Thesis students must take two electives. Those two electives are normally Social Work courses taken from the list below, or the list immediately above (SOCW 601, 603, 605), but may on occasion also be courses from other UNBC graduate programs, and/or from other accredited Canadian universities via approved transfer agreements.**
- **Practicum students must take a total of three electives. One must be a Social Work course and come from the list below, or the list immediately above (SOCW 601, 603, 605). Two may on occasion come from other UNBC graduate programs, and/or from other accredited Canadian universities via approved transfer agreements.**

- SOCW 604-3**** Directed Readings
- SOCW 610-3 Wellness: Alternate Approaches
- SOCW 613-3 Clinical Social Work Practice
- SOCW 670-3 Indigenous Peoples in Canada: Past/Present/Future
- SOCW 671-3 Reflections on Practice: Indigenous Children/Youth Mental Health
- SOCW 672-3 Social Work/ Counselling Skills with Indigenous Children/Youth
- SOCW 673-3 Mental Health and Addictions among Indigenous Children/Youth
- SOCW 674-3 Crisis Work with Indigenous Children/Youth: Restoring Balance
- SOCW 675-3 Community-Based Prevention with Indigenous People: Creating Balance

- SOCW 698-3 Special Topics
- SOCW 701-3 Research Practicum

*** Not all electives are offered in a given year

**** May be taken once only.

The MSW Foundation Year and the MSW Year requirements are detailed below:

MSW Foundation Year		
Courses	Fall Term	Winter Term
Required	SOCW 630-3 SOCW 631-3 SOCW 633-3	SOCW 634-3 SOCW 635-3
	SOCW 637-3 SOCW 632-9	
Electives		2 MSW Electives
Foundation Year	33 Credit Hours	
MSW Year		
Courses	Thesis Option	Practicum Option
Required	SOCW 602-3 SOCW 609-3 SOCW 704-3 HHSC 703-3 SOCW 700-12	SOCW 602-3 SOCW 609-3 SOCW 704-3 HHSC 703-3 SOCW 732-9
	Take at least 1 of: SOCW 601-3 SOCW 603-3 SOCW 605-3	
Electives	2 Electives	3 Electives
MSW Year		
Course Work	21	24
Practicum	0	9
Thesis	12	0
Total required for MSW Year	33 Credit Hours (Either Option)	
Total Required for Foundation Year and MSW Year	66 Credit Hours	

School of Social Work Faculty and Research Interests:

Bruce Bidgood, Associate Professor

BA (Brock) MSW PhD (Wilfrid Laurier)
Family Violence, Child Welfare, Social Policy, Social Administration, Social Planning, Applied Social Welfare Research

Susan Burke, RSW, Associate Professor

BA (Trinity Western) MSW PhD (UNBC)
Indigenous social work practice, Child welfare practice, Kinship care, Social work health and wellness, Indigenous social work education

Emmanuel Chilanga, RSW, Assistant Professor

BEd (University of Malawi) MSc (Western) MSW (McGill) PhD (McGill)
Community social work practice, Social work field education, Social determinants of health, Food security and nutrition, Intersectionality, HIV and Addiction support, Participatory research methods, agroecology, mitigation of the impact of COVID-19, Rural and urban communities, Southern Africa, Canada

Rahul Jain, RCSW, Assistant Professor

BA MA MSW PhD
Mental Health Services (especially At-Risk Children/Youth), Medical Social Work, Remote/Northern Social Work, Community Development, Multiculturalism, and Indigenous Social Work Practice

Lisa Kyle, RCSW, Assistant Professor

BA (SFU) MSW (UNBC) PhD (UNBC)
Mental Health (Posttraumatic Stress Disorder), Field Education, Social Work and Clinical Practice

Indrani Margolin, RSW, Associate Professor, and MSW Coordinator

BA (Guelph) MSW (Wilfrid Laurier) PhD (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto)
Spirituality in Practice, Arts/Movement Therapy, Girls' and Women's Embodiment, Arts-based Inquiry

Tammy Pearson, RSW, Assistant Professor, and Acting Chair

BA (University College of Cape Breton) BSW (UVIC) MSW (UBC) PhD (UNBC)
Child Welfare Practice and Policy, Mental Health, Family Violence, Social Work and Spirituality, and Disability Issues

Heather Peters, RSW, Associate Professor

BA (Saskatchewan) BSW (British Columbia) MSW (Carleton) PhD (British Columbia)
Homelessness, Women and Housing Issues, Youth, Community Development, Social Policy, Indigenous Self-Government, Housing Policy

Joanna Pierce, RSW, Associate Professor, and School of Social Work Chair

BSW MSW (UNBC) PhD (UBC)
Mental Health, Community Development, Cross-Cultural Communication, Remote / Northern Practice Development, Child Welfare, and Social Policy

Si Transken, RSW, Associate Professor

BA Hons BSW (Laurentian) MA PhD (Toronto)
Cultural Studies, Creative Writing, Criminal Harassment, Incest, Sexual Assault, Violence Against Women, Expressive Arts Therapy, Feminist Social Work, Anti-Racism, Mediation, Sexual Expression and Identities

For further information about the Master of Social Work Program at UNBC, please contact:

Christine Plumridge

Administrative Assistant
School of Social Work
Telephone: 250-960-5017
Email: christine.plumridge@unbc.ca

Indrani Margolin

Associate Professor, and MSW Coordinator
School of Social Work
Email: indranil.margolin@unbc.ca

For information on Graduate Admissions at UNBC, please contact:

Graduate Admissions and Retention Officer

Office of Graduate Administration
Telephone: 250-960-5125
Email: gradunbc4u@unbc.ca

Regulations of the Office of Graduate Administration and the Graduate Academic Calendar take precedence over this document. Please refer to their webpages:

<https://www2.unbc.ca/graduate-programs>

<https://www2.unbc.ca/calendar/graduate>

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