



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

*Please replace all text in italic with appropriate information before submitting your proposal.
Your entries should be in regular (not italic) font.*

PROPOSAL TITLE: *Increase Number of Major Credits for the Bachelor of Social Work, (BSW),
in the School of Social Work*

SPONSOR: *Brenda Coble Lindsey, Bachelor of Social Work Program Director, 217-333-2261,
blindsey@illinois.edu*

COLLEGE CONTACT: *Brenda Coble Lindsey, Bachelor of Social Work Program Director,
217-333-2261, blindsey@illinois.edu*

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Two major required courses were recently revised (SOCW 470 and 471) and combined with SOCW 472 into a single course. SOCW 470 Field Practicum (8 credits) and SOCW 471 Professional Practice Seminar II (4 credits) were required to be taken concurrently. SOCW 472 BSW Field Special Project (3 credits) was an additional companion course that students had the option of taking at the same time they were enrolled in SOCW 470 and 471. Most students elected to enroll in SOCW 470, 471, and 472 during the same semester. The recently approved SOCW 470 course revision combined the three courses into a single course for fifteen credits.

JUSTIFICATION: The rationale for integrating the three courses into a single course was to provide a more cohesive learning experience for students. By increasing the number of credits for SOCW 470, the change increases the number of major credits required for degree completion from 50 to 53 hours. The total number of credits required for degree completion remains unchanged at 120 hours.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

Resources

- a. How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal? The School of Social Work has a Field Education Office. The Field Faculty have always taught SOCW 470, 471, and 472 and they will continue to do so in the future.
- b. How will the unit create capacity or surplus to appropriately resource this program? If applicable, what functions or programs will the unit no longer support to create capacity? The program is appropriately resourced with

Field Education faculty who have continued responsibility for instruction for the course.

- c. Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources? If so, please provide a summary of the sources and an indication of the approved support. There is no plan to seek additional campus or external resources. BSW students are assessed an Experiential Learning Fee to support extensive service learning and field education experiences provided by the School of Social Work.
- d. Please provide a letter of acknowledgment from the college that outlines the financial arrangements for the proposed program.

2) Resource Implications

- a. Please address the impact on faculty resources including the changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc. No changes in the number of faculty, class size, teaching loads, etc. are required for the proposed change in degree requirements. The Field Education Faculty have always taught the three courses and will continue to do with the
- b. Please address the impact on course enrollment in other units and provide an explanation of discussions with representatives of those units. *(A letter of acknowledgement from units impacted should be included.)*
- c. Please address the impact on the University Library *(A letter of estimated impact from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals. If the impact is above and beyond normal library business practices, describe provisions for how this will be resourced.)*
- d. Please address the impact on technology and space (e.g. computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.)

For new degree programs only:

- 3) Briefly describe how this program will support the University's mission, focus, and/or current priorities. Include specific objectives and measurable outcomes that demonstrate the program's consistency with and centrality to that mission.
- 4) Please provide an analysis of the market demand for this degree program. What market indicators are driving this proposal? What type of employment outlook should these graduates expect? What resources will be provided to assist students with job placement?
- 5) If this is a proposed graduate program, please discuss the programs intended use of waivers. If the program is dependent on waivers, how will the unit compensate for lost tuition revenue?

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: *(Proposals may not be implemented until they go through all necessary levels of approval. The Provost's office will inform the sponsors in writing when they may implement their proposal. Proposed changes may not be publicized as final on any web sites, printed documents, etc. until written confirmation of final approval is issued.)*

April 1, 2017

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: *(All proposals must include either a new or revised version of the entry in the Programs of Study Catalog, if applicable. Entries will be published as approved by the Senate. Future changes in the statement for Programs of Study Catalog which reflect changes in the curriculum, must go through the normal review process at the appropriate levels.)*

Overview of Curriculum and Requirements

The purpose of undergraduate social work education at the School of Social Work is to provide a comprehensive educational experience for students that is grounded in a liberal arts tradition and prepares graduates for excellence in the areas of social work practice, policy, social engagement and leadership.

Upon degree completion, graduates will be prepared for entry into generalist social work practice, advanced standing in graduate social work education, and a multitude of career opportunities. These can include careers in communications, corrections, education, government, health care, human resources, law, non-profit organizations, religious studies, and public service. Obtaining an undergraduate degree in Social Work gives students the opportunity to pursue a License of Social Work (LSW). A BSW degree also makes students eligible to pursue Advanced Standing status in many masters of Social Work (MSW) programs. The advanced standing status enables BSW graduates to receive a MSW in only one year.

The focus of undergraduate curriculum delivery is through a student-centered strengths-based educational model that fosters student understanding by providing a challenging, yet supportive environment of high expectations that encourage the development of well-informed and engaged citizens.

Degree title: Bachelor of Social Work

The social work major prepares practitioners for generalist social work practice with individuals, groups, families and communities. The curriculum requires a minimum of 120 hours for graduation. Minimum required course work in the major equates to 53 course hours of core professional education, including 15 hours for an agency-based field practicum (internship) and seminar where students receive additional supervision and training 4 days per week for one semester.

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.)

Signatures:

Brenda Lindsey
Unit Representative:

2/9/17
Date:

Stephanie Sandra Kon
College Representative:

February 9, 2017
Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Council on Teacher Education Representative:

Date:

**Appendix A:
(Proposed Curriculum Revisions)**

Core Requirements	Current Hours	Revised
SOCW 470	8	15
SOCW 471	4	0
Optional: SOCW472	(3)	0
Other Core Courses	38	38
Total Required	50	53

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.17.57

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



February 14, 2017

Bettina Francis, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Francis:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the School of Social Work to revise the number of major-required hours in the Bachelor of Social Work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kathryn A. Martensen'.

Kathryn A. Martensen
Assistant Provost

Enclosure

c: B. Lindsey