

Social Work

MAJOR @ VITERBO UNIVERSITY



12/11

Overview

Social work is a rewarding and dynamic profession for those with a strong desire to help improve people's lives. Social workers collaborate with individuals to discover solutions to improve relationships, and to overcome personal and family challenges. Groups that social workers help include: children; juveniles; families; persons living with disabilities, addictions, or mental health challenges; victims and perpetrators of crimes; and the elderly. The social work profession is dedicated to promoting social justice and empowerment for all.

Why Viterbo?

The Viterbo University social work program features:

- National accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education.
- Completion of a 30-hour per week, 450-hour internship in a social service setting working with a trained social work field instructor.
- Experiential learning including participation in National Association of Social Workers Lobby, joining hundreds of other social workers for a day at the capitol in Madison and a four-day trip to Chicago to observe Juvenile Court, visit ethnic neighborhoods, and urban social service agencies.
- Hands-on assignments including interviewing and shadowing social workers, conducting intakes at St. Clare Health Mission, and completion of an advocacy project. Course related field trips to treatment centers, funeral homes, the Hmong Cultural Center, and regional social service conferences.
- An active student social work club that sponsors educational events, provides service in the community and raises money for local causes.
- A chapter of Phi Alpha Honor Society, the National Social Work Honor Society.

Employment and Graduate School

Social work employment is expected to grow faster than average for all professions (Bureau of Labor Statistics). Viterbo social work graduates have been very successful in finding employment in spite of the economic downturn, with a 93 percent placement rate in 2010. In 2011, 100 percent of seniors who applied to graduate school were accepted. Many Master of Social Work programs offer advance standing to graduates of accredited social work programs allowing completion in 12–18 months if attending full time.

For More Information www.viterbo.edu/socialwork

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Sample Four Year Plan for B.A. in Social Work

If seeking a B.S. degree, substitute **green** courses where indicated.

Pre-professional program: courses in blue are required for admission to the social work program.			
Credits	Freshman—Fall	Credits	Freshman—Spring
3	ENGL 103—Composition and Argument	3	ENGL 104—Composition and Literature
3	SOCL 125—Introduction to Sociology	3	SOWK 210—Introduction to Social Work
3	PSYC 171—General Psychology	3	VUSM 200—Leading in a Diverse World
2	COMM 150—Fundamentals of Speech	3	Historical Analysis
3	VUSM 100—Franciscan Values	4	World Language or 3 Natural Science or Math
4	World Language or 3 General Elective		
17–18		15–16	
Credits	Sophomore—Fall	Credits	Sophomore—Spring
4	BIOL 203—Human Biology	3	POSC 121—American Government
3	SOWK 240—Introduction to Research Writing (Written Comm.)	3	Math 130—Intro to Statistics or SOCL/PSYC 223—Applied Statistics for Social Sciences
3	VUSM 300—The Common Good	3	ARTS XXX—Artistic Awareness
3	ENGL XXX—Literary Analysis	3	Integrating Faith or Theology
3	World Language or 3 General Elective	3	SOCL 320—Racial and Ethnic Groups
		3	World Language or 3 General Elective
16		18	
Professional Program: Courses in blue must be taken concurrently and sequentially.			
Credits	Junior—Fall	Credits	Junior—Spring
3	SOWK 280—Social Work Interviewing	3	SOWK 321—Practice I
3	SOWK 331—Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	3	SOWK 431—Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
3	SOWK 340—Social Work Research	3	SOWK 341—Social Welfare Policy I
3	SOWK XXX—Social Work Elective	3	PSYC 340—Behavior Disorders or SOWK 366—Community-based Mental Health Services
3	General Elective	3	SOWK XXX—Social Work Elective
3	General Elective		
18		15	
Credits	Senior—Fall	Credits	Senior—Spring
3	SOWK 421—Practice II	9	SOWK 480—Field Education
3	SOWK 441—Social Welfare Policy II	3	SOWK 482—Senior Capstone
1	SOWK 479—Field Education Preparation		
3	SOWK XXX—Social Work Elective		
3	VUSM 400—The Ethical Life		
3	General Elective		
16		12	

- Social work majors must formally apply and be accepted into the professional program to enter junior and senior level courses. Application to the professional program occurs during the sophomore semester two.
- Students need 128 credits to graduate; 43 must be upper division credits.

This is a sample schedule and it may need to be modified to fit student interests and course availability. Every effort should be made to take major and support courses when indicated to make sure students have the prerequisites for later courses. General Education courses and electives may be taken at times other than indicated.

This is an unofficial course outline. For complete degree requirements, refer to the undergraduate catalog.