



School of Social Work

First-Year New Student Registration

Presented By:
Alex Kellerman
Academic Advisor



Welcome New Students & Guests!

Meet the School of Social Work Staff



Alex Kellerman
Undergraduate Academic Advisor



Monica Cherry
Director of Student Affairs



Ekateryna Woodford
Undergraduate Affairs Coordinator

Meet some of the BSW Faculty Members



Carol Wilson-Smith

BSW Program Director
Clinical Professor



Rachel Garthe

Associate Professor
Undergraduate Research Program
Coordinator



Sherrie Faulkner

Director of BSW Field Education
Clinical Associate Professor



Commitment to Student Success

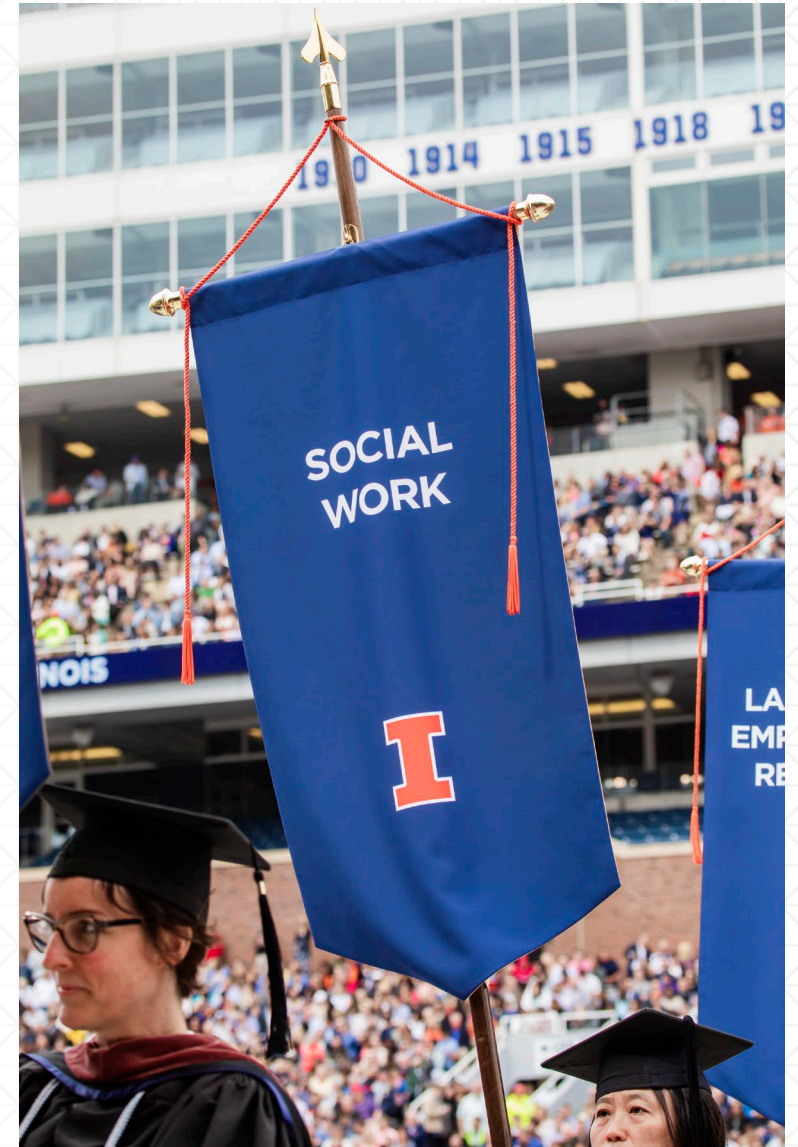


- Proactive, comprehensive, individual advising
- Building non-transactional relationships with our students
- Smaller, more intimate classroom settings
- A small unit at a large institution, giving the best of both worlds
- Providing opportunities for students to be involved in research
- Hands-on learning experiences through internships
- A seamless transition to the MSW Program



BSW Program Goals

- The BSW Program prepares students for three career trajectories, each with multiple options.
- **With a BSW degree, you can:**
 - enter generalist social work practice,
 - pursue your MSW, or
 - seek career opportunities or graduate education in communications, corrections, education, government, health care, human resources, and/or many other disciplines.



Making a Difference

- As a BSW Social Worker, you can help a variety of people from different walks of life:
 - those with disabilities or facing life-threatening illnesses
 - those suffering from poverty, unemployment, substance abuse, or mental illness
 - those who have experienced domestic violence, child abuse, or sexual assault



Career Opportunities in Social Work

Social Workers can work in settings including:

- Corporations
- Crisis Centers
- Elected Office
- Faith-based Communities
- Family Services
- Higher Education
- Hospitals
- International Practice
- Mental Health Clinics
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Prisons
- Private Agencies
- Private Practices
- Research
- Schools
- Senior Centers
- Veterans Affairs



BSW Student Handbook

- The *BSW Handbook* is designed to be a primary source of information about the School, the program of study, and the administrative regulations governing your participation.
- Students are expected to use the *BSW Handbook* as a guide throughout their career at the School of Social Work.
- The BSW Field Education Manual also governs students during their internship.

****The BSW Handbook can be found online at:***

<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/app/uploads/2021/08/BSW-Student-Handbook-2021-2022.pdf>

*****The BSW Field Manual can be found online at:***

<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/app/uploads/2022/10/2022-BSW-Internship-Guide.pdf>



Learning Fee

- One of the unique features of the BSW major is providing innovative programs and experiential learning opportunities.
- These intensive educational programs (research opportunities, service learning, community-based assignments, brown bags) are a hallmark of social work education and prepare our students for success in the professional workforce and graduate and professional study.
- A one-time fee of **\$750** is charged to BSW students once they have earned in-progress hours between 60 – 89.9.



Academic Advising

- Each semester, every undergraduate Social Work student must meet with Alex Kellerman, the School of Social Work Undergraduate Academic Advisor.
- It is strongly recommended that you meet with your Academic Advisor at least once per semester
- The School of Social Work will communicate regularly with you via email, the weekly BSW newsletter, and the BSW listserv. You can also opt-in to text messaging by email at socialwork@illinois.edu
- It is better to meet with the Advisor **before** an *issue* becomes problematic.
- The Academic Advisor **cannot** make exceptions to University rules and regulations.
- Your Advisor serves as a resource and advocate, but it is your responsibility to know your degree requirements and progress by confirming with your Degree Audit Report.



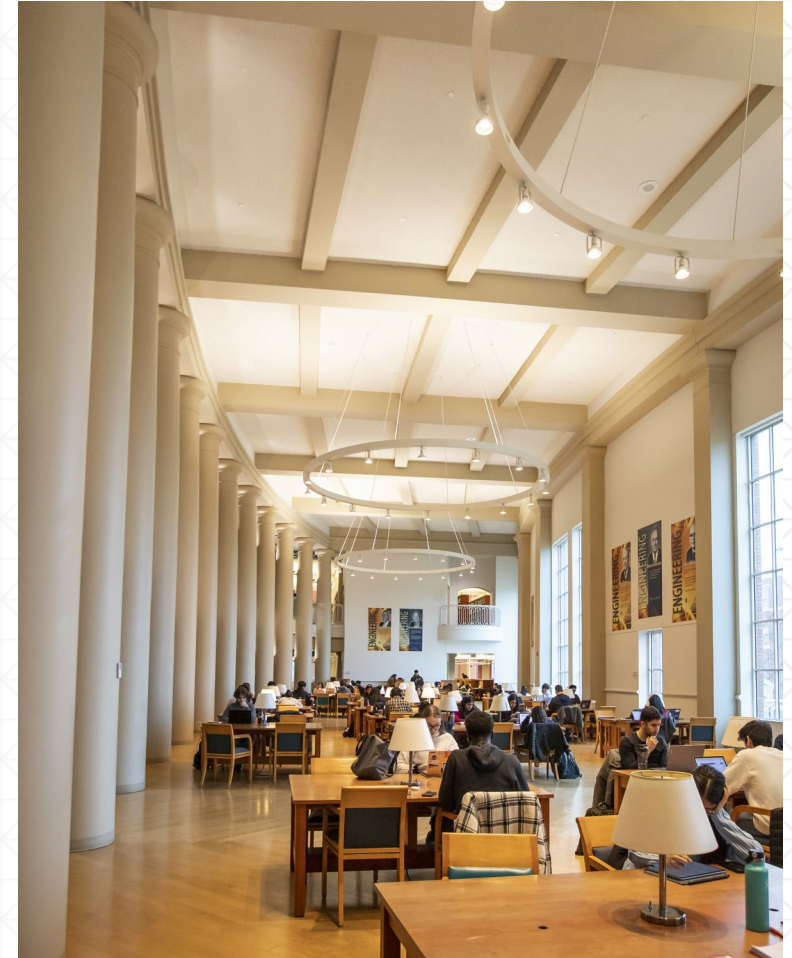
Academic Advising

- Social Work majors will focus primarily on general education requirements in their first four semesters (two years).
- As a Social Work student, you can:
 - pursue a double major (dual degree) or pursue professional tracks like pre-med or pre-law
 - obtain a minor
 - participate in independent study opportunities with faculty



Advising Suggestions

- Schedule a time to meet with your Advisor at least once a semester **before** your time to register
- Schedule an appointment in the first **four** weeks of the fall semester
- Talk to your Advisor **before** you drop a course
- All required general education and program coursework must be completed before beginning Field Placement (SOCW 470)
- Get to know your advisor, Office of Student Affairs Staff, faculty, and peers.



Social Work majors can pursue various options to study abroad.



Champaign, IL



Athens, Greece



Keys to Success at Illinois

- Ask questions and take ownership of your education
- Get involved on and off campus
- Read your Illinois email *daily*
- Read the BSW newsletter each week
- Come prepared to every advising session per BSW
Advising directions: [BSW Advising - School of Social Work \(illinois.edu\)](https://www.illinois.edu/bsw/advising)
- Be open and flexible to developing and/or clarifying your personal and professional goals
- Be an active participant in discussions



Your Success at the School of Social Work

- **Be present, attend class and volunteer**
- Don't be afraid to ask for help
- Step outside of your comfort zone
- Meet with and communicate professionally and respectfully with your professors
- Go to office hours
- Find your people and peer group
- Participate in social work events
- Form study groups



Federal Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)

- In 1974, Congress enacted the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to guarantee students access to their educational records and to prohibit the dissemination of educational records without the student's consent.
- Legally, we cannot provide academic information about you to others without your written consent, including your family members
- We encourage families to discuss expectations about sharing academic information before instruction begins.
- More information regarding FERPA can be found here:

[Parents & FERPA – Office of the Registrar \(illinois.edu\)](#)



Transition



New Beginnings and Experiences

High School

- If you were absent, the teachers often provided information you missed.
- Your teachers and school monitored your attendance.
- Sometimes, teachers provide more one-on-one instruction through critical thinking and problem-solving processes.
- Your time was often structured by others.
- You may have counted on others to remind you of your daily responsibilities.
- Your school day was managed for you.

Let's chat more!



New Beginnings and Experiences

College

- If absent, you are expected to follow up with your professor and/or a peer on what you missed.
- Your professors may (*or may not**) monitor your attendance. Some professors have attendance policies.
- Your professors will help you develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills for yourself.
- You are responsible for structuring your time.
- You are responsible for deadlines and for meeting them.
- You are in the driver's seat to ensure a strong and successful college experience.
- ***Read the syllabus to become familiar with the course assignments, policies, and procedures.***



General Education Requirements

- Composition I and Intro to Speech
- Advanced Composition
- 2 Quantitative Reasoning (Stats requirement)
- Language Other Than English (LOTE) – 3rd Level
- Humanities and the Arts (1 L&A, 1 H&P)
- 3 Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Natural Sciences and Technology (1 Life, 1 Physical)
- Cultural Studies (1 Western, 1 Non-Western, 1 US Minority)



Why are general education courses so important?

- General education courses (often called “gen eds”) are the foundation of university education.
- Gen eds are what:
 - make college different than technical training
 - make you the well-educated graduate that employers are looking for
- Gen eds allow you to:
 - explore other areas of interest
 - supplement your experience with a double major, minor, etc. (if you are interested in doing so)



Placement vs. Proficiency

Placement testing and proficiency testing have two very different purposes.

- Incoming students who take a math, science, or "language other than English" *placement test* will learn which course they should enroll in for their first year at Illinois. High scores can qualify a student for the departmental proficiency test. New students are **NOT REQUIRED** to take an on-campus departmental proficiency test just because their placement test score qualifies them to take it. It is simply an option to consider.
- Incoming students who take a departmental *proficiency test* will earn academic credit that counts towards graduation if they do well; if they don't, their academic record remains unaffected.
- Continuing students who have not yet earned college-level credit in a particular subject may also register for the departmental proficiency exam.



LOTE (Language Other Than English)

- If you studied a language other than English in high school but you have not earned college credit for it AND you plan to continue studying it, you need to take its placement test.
- BSW students must have to the third level of a LOTE.
 - Example: At least years in High School and at least three semesters at an institution



Social Work Course Requirement

- **SOCW 200** - Introduction to Social Work
- **SOCW 300** – Diversity: Identities & Issues
- **SOCW 401, 402, & 403** - Social Work Practice I, II, and III
- **SOCW 410** - Social Welfare Policy
- **SOCW 427** – Social Work Research Methods
- **SOCW 451** – HSBE I: Human Development
- **SOCW Electives (3 – 4 courses)**
- **SOCW 461** – Professional Practice Seminar I
- **SOCW 470** – Field Practicum & Professional Seminar II



Social Work Field Placement (SOCW 470)

- SOCW 470 Field Practicum & Professional Seminar II – 15 credit hour course
- This is a supervised field practice experience and seminar in which students apply knowledge and skills in social work engagement, assessment, planning, and interventions to individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities.
- Students receive a dedicated Field Liaison while completing field placement.
- Integrate coursework into hands-on learning experiences
- Placements across the state and in your home community
- **All required general education, program courses, and degree requirements must be completed before enrolling in your Social Work Field Placement.**



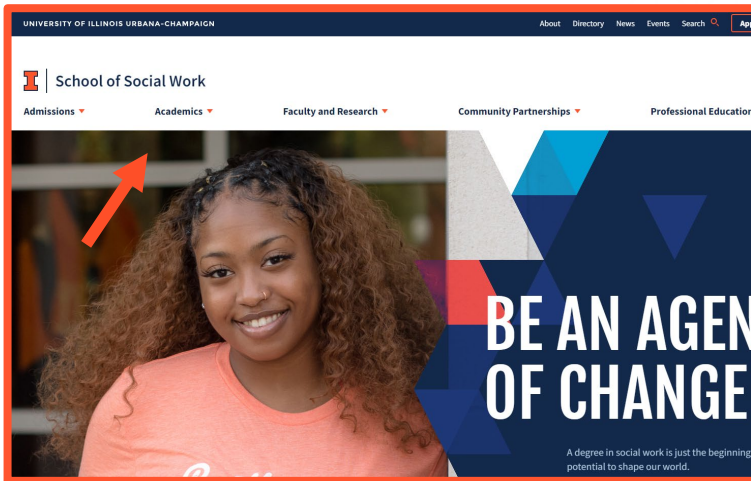
Degree Requirements

- **Credit Hours:** A credit hour typically represents one hour of classroom instruction per week over a 15-week semester (or equivalent). Our Bachelor's Degree in Social Work (BSW) requires 120 credit hours for degree completion.
- **Residency Hours:** each candidate for a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign must earn at least 45 semester hours of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign credit.
- **Curriculum Requirements:** All Social Work classes discussed in previous slides.

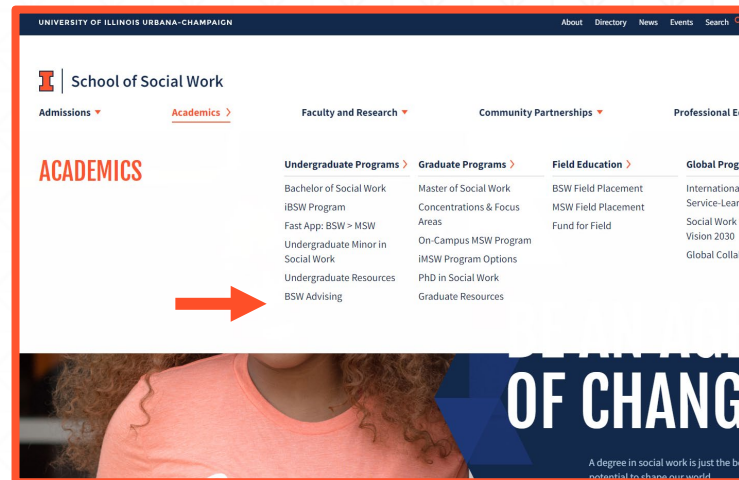


How do I prepare for an advising appointment?

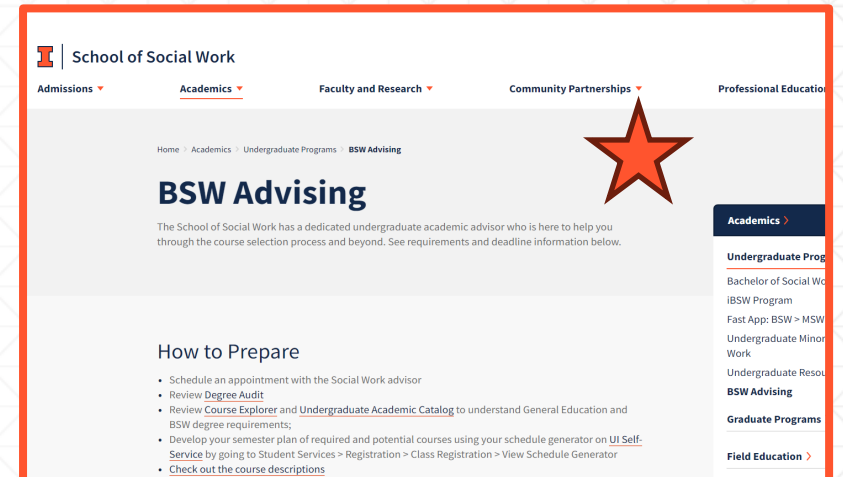
Visit socialwork.illinois.edu
Select “Academics”



Under Academics,
Select “BSW Advising”



Review How to Prepare,
Requirements, Important Deadlines,
Notification for Full Courses, and
Forms and Petitions



Academic Advising

- Each semester, every undergraduate Social Work student must meet with Alex Kellerman, the School of Social Work Undergraduate Academic Advisor.
- Learn the BSW degree requirements
- The main and **only** form of communication will be through your Illinois email.
- The School of Social Work will communicate regularly with you via email, the weekly BSW newsletter, and the BSW listserv. You can also opt-in to text messaging by email at socialwork@illinois.edu
- It is better to meet with the Advisor **before** an *issue* becomes problematic.
- The Academic Advisor **cannot** make exceptions to University rules and regulations.
- Your Advisor serves as a resource and advocate, but it's ultimately your responsibility to be aware of your degree requirements and progress.



Academic Advising

What is your Role?

- Regularly connect and meet with your advisor at least once a semester to stay on track with your academic journey.
- Make and keep appointments or cancel within 24 hours.
- Prepare for appointments (visit BSW Advising)
- Choose your class schedule before meeting with your advisor to discuss it.
- Ask for resources and read all newsletters and emails thoroughly.
- Hold the responsibility of understanding degree requirements and tracking your progress toward graduation.
- Keep track of important dates and deadlines for the academic year.

What is your Advisor's Role?

- Provide academic advice and assistance to students regarding course selection, degree requirements, and educational planning to ensure timely progression towards graduation.
- Interpret and explain academic policies, procedures, and regulations to students, ensuring they understand their learning rights and responsibilities.
- Listen without prejudice, offer suggestions, and discuss strategies.
- Guide you in your decision-making process.
- Be an accessible resource, ally, and mentor



How to prepare for an advising appointment

- Schedule an appointment with the Social Work advisor
- Review [Degree Audit](#)
- Review [Course Explorer](#) and [Undergraduate Academic Catalog](#) to understand General Education and BSW degree requirements;
- Develop your semester plan of required and potential courses using your schedule generator on [UI Self-Service](#) by going to Student Services > Registration > Class Registration > View Schedule Generator
- [Check out the course descriptions](#) and become familiar with the BSW [Degree Requirements](#)
- Make a list of questions to ask the academic advisor
- Know where the advising appointment is located
- Do not meet with an advisor in person if ill.



Registering For Classes

- In your first two years, you will want to aim for 15 – 16 credit hours of classes, especially if you have little to no transfer credit.
- In general, you will complete 100-level and general education courses
- A hold may be placed on your account for registration
- [How to Register Using Class Registration – Office of the Registrar \(illinois.edu\)](#)



Academic Information

- You can add classes to your schedule during the first week of classes (up to the 10th day) and drop classes up until the mid-point of the course. Consult with your academic advisor before you drop/add a course.
- Review the Fall 2024 Academic Calendar for important deadlines and dates: [Fall 2024 Academic Calendar](#) – [Office of the Registrar \(illinois.edu\)](#)



How can I get involved at the School of Social Work?

LGBTQ+
Networks



LSWO
LATINO SOCIAL WORK
ORGANIZATION

SWSA
SOCIAL WORK STUDENT
ASSOCIATION



IMMERSIVE FIELD
EDUCATION EXPERIENCES

RSO's
REGISTERED STUDENT
ORGANIZATIONS



Diversity Committee



SOCIAL WORKS
STUDENT
MENTORING



Student Testimonial

“

“The School does a great job of showing students the wide range of jobs and careers in the field and of helping students build on their own strengths and passions.”

”



Sierra Fitzpatrick-Skinner, BSW '22,
current MSW student



SAVE THE DATE

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

NEW STUDENT WELCOME EVENT

Friday, August 23rd

More details to come!

