SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY

Description of Courses Open to Non-Degree Students: Spring 2015
See the course schedule for days and times of course offerings.

**Human Behavior and Social Environment II (SSW 611), 3 credits**
This is a required course for the MSW degree. The prerequisite for course is SSW 610 Human Behavior and Social Environment I. This is the second part of a two-course sequence that is required in the MSW program.

This course is a continuation of SSW 610 focusing on psychosocial dysfunction. The course emphasizes the multiple determinants of human behavior including biological, psychological, social and environmental factors.

**Macro Practice in Social Work II (SSW 631), 3 credits**
This is a required course for the MSW degree. The prerequisite for this course is SSW 630, Macro Practice in Social Work I. This is the second part of a two-course sequence that is required in the MSW program. The Monday evening section meets at Kids Oneida in Utica, NY.

Introduces social work practice at the group, organizational, community and societal levels with emphasis on at-risk and oppressed populations. Historical, theoretical and service delivery issues that form the context for social work practice in these areas. Themes include the history of macro-practice in social work; organization, group and community theory; non-clinical roles in social work; and the organizational and community contexts for the provision of social services.

**Introductory Research Methods (SSW 660), 3 credits**
This is a required course for the MSW degree. Prerequisite is graduate status.

Introduction to research methods in social work including content on defining social work research problems, developing and testing hypotheses, the logic of causal inference, sampling, measurement (including reliability and validity), basic skills in data analysis and research utilization, the ethics of research, and research issues concerning human diversity. Emphasizes methods and content relevant to social work practice and the problems of social welfare.

**Substance Use: An Overview and Relationship with Mental Disorders and Developmental Disabilities (SSW 705), 3 credits**
This blended course is designed to assist professionals in their work with substance-using individuals. The course will cover the most commonly used substances (e.g. alcohol, marijuana, stimulants, opioids, etc.). Emphasis will be given to exploring risk factors, etiology, maintenance, screening, and assessment of chemical use. The relationship between substance use and co-occurring psychiatric disorders and developmental disabilities will be covered. Issues related to culturally competent practice will be integrated throughout the course.