

# *SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE*

## *Dean*

Katharine Briar-Lawson, Ph.D.  
University of California, Berkeley

## *Associate Deans*

Anne E. Fortune, Ph.D.  
University of Chicago  
Janet D. Perloff, Ph.D.  
University of Chicago

## *Director, Undergraduate Program*

Julie S. Abramson, Ph.D.  
Bryn Mawr College

## *Faculty*

### *Distinguished Professor*

William J. Reid, D.S.W.  
Columbia University

### *Distinguished Service Professor*

Shirley J. Jones, D.S.W. (Collins Fellow)  
Columbia University  
Susan R. Sherman, Ph.D. (Collins Fellow)  
University of California, Berkeley

### *Distinguished Teaching Professor*

Jan L. Hagen, Ph.D.  
University of Minnesota

### *Professors Emeritae/i*

Neil J. Cervera, Ph.D.  
New York University  
Donald L. Cohen, M.S.W.  
Columbia University  
Maureen Didier, Ph.D.  
Smith College  
Steven Pflanczer, Ph.D.  
Loyola University  
Aaron Rosenblatt, D.S.W.  
Columbia University  
Edmund Sherman, Ph.D.  
Bryn Mawr College  
Max Siporin, D.S.W.  
University of Pittsburgh  
Sheldon S. Tobin, Ph.D.  
University of Chicago

### *Professors*

Katharine Briar-Lawson, Ph.D.  
University of California, Berkeley  
Bonnie E. Carlson, Ph.D.  
University of Michigan  
Anne E. Fortune, Ph.D.  
University of Chicago  
Burton Gummer, Ph.D.  
Bryn Mawr College  
Hal Lawson, Ph.D.  
University of Michigan  
Janet D. Perloff, Ph.D.  
University of Chicago  
Theodore J. Stein, D.S.W.  
University of California, Berkeley  
Ronald W. Toseland, Ph.D.  
University of Wisconsin  
Lynn Videka-Sherman, Ph.D.,  
(Collins Fellow)

University of Chicago

*Associate Professors*

Julie S. Abramson, Ph.D.

Bryn Mawr College

Barry M. Loneck, Ph.D.

Case Western Reserve University

Phillip McCallion, Ph.D.

University at Albany

William D. Roth, Ph.D.

University of California, Berkeley

Carolyn Smith, Ph.D.

University at Albany

*Assistant Professors*

Sandra Austin, Ed.D.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Nancy Claiborne, Ph.D.

University of Houston

Zvi Gellis, Ph.D.

University of Toronto

Eric Hardiman, Ph.D.

University of California, Berkeley

Lani Jones, Ph.D.

Boston College

Robert Miller, Ph.D.

Columbia University

Blanca Ramos, Ph.D.

University at Albany

Brenda Smith, Ph.D.

University of Chicago

Starr Wood, Ph.D.

Smith College

*Lecturers*

Mary L. McCarthy, M.S.W.

University at Albany

*Public Service Professors*

Laura Bronstein, Ph.D.

Barry University

Matthew Janickj, Ph.D.

University at Buffalo, SUNY

Ed Kramer, M.A.

New York University

William Reynolds, D.D.S.

University of Michigan

Daniel Tobin, M.D.

Albany Medical College

Evelyn Williams, M.S.W.

State University of New York at Stony Brook

*Affiliated Faculty*

Oscar Best, M.S.W.

Columbia University

Regina Bures, Ph.D.

Brown University

Deborah Doolittle, M.A.

John Hopkins University

Linda Mertz, M.S.W.

Boston College

David Pettie, M.S.W.

University at Albany

Barbara Rio, M.S.W.

Hunter College

Victoria Rizzo, M.S.W.

University at Albany

Crystal Rogers, M.S.W.

University at Albany  
Bonita W. Sanchez, M.S.W.  
University at Albany  
Tamara Smith, B.A.

University at Albany

*Adjuncts (estimated): 2*

*Teaching Assistants (estimated): 1*

The objective of the undergraduate social work major (B.S.) is to prepare students for beginning social work. The program serves the liberal education needs for students interested in the social sciences and human services professions. Part-time study is possible. The B.S. in social work qualifies graduates for advanced standing in some M.S.W. programs.

The Master in Social Welfare (M.S.W.) prepares students for advanced social work practice. These positions generally require advanced theoretical, practice, research, management and/or policy analysis skills.

The School of Social Welfare offers programs leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in social welfare, a Master of Social Welfare (M.S.W.) degree, and a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree. The School of Social Welfare also sponsors the Institute of Gerontology, Social Work Education Consortium, The Center for Human Services Research, The Community and Public Service Program, and the Technology Education Consultation for Human Services (TECH Center).

Both the B.S. and M.S.W. degree programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the national accrediting body for all schools of social work.

## Degree Requirements for the Major in Social Welfare

General Program B.S.: A combined major and minor sequence consisting of a minimum of 65 credits as follows:

Of the 65 credits: (a) 15–16 credits represent the elementary base; (b) 18 credits represent the advanced base; (c) the remaining 32 credits constitute the core requirements for a major in social welfare.

In addition, it is recommended that prospective social welfare majors elect R Ssw 290 (Community Service) in their sophomore year.

Elementary Base: 15–16 credits, required courses; as many as possible to be taken prior to admission to the program.

A Bio 110F or N (or A Bio 102N, A Bio 209N, A Ant 102, A Ant 119N, A Ant 313, A Ant 319, A Ant 411, A Ant 412, A Ant 450).

A Psy 101M or Psy 102M

A Soc 115M or G

R Pos 101M or G

R Ssw 210

Advanced Base: 18 credits, required courses that build upon the elementary base.

A Mat 108 (or A Psy 210, A Soc 221, B Msi 220, R Crj 281).

A Psy 270 or A Soc 260

A Psy 338

A Soc 180M

A Soc 282M or G (or A Aas 213, A Aas 220, A Aas 240, A Ant 100, A Ant 172, A Ant 351, A Cas 131, A Cas 141, A Cas 150, A Jst 225, A Jst 275, A Gog 240, A His 158, A Phi 328, A Soc 375, R Ssw 220, A Wss 101).

Elective as Advised: students select a course of personal interest that specifically addresses issues facing a gender, ethnic, racial or religious group that is different from the student's own background. (A Aas 219, 331, 333, 370, 400, 432, 435; A Ant 240M; A Eas 180; A Eco 130; A Eng 240; A Fre 208, 281; A Gog 125, 240; A His 300Z; A Jst 150, 155, 221, 254, 260, 270, 344Z, 351Z; A Lcs 201, 269; A Phi 214; A Rel 100L; A Soc 262M 375; U Uni 230; A Wss 101, 202, 210, 262M, 308). Students are also encouraged to review the Undergraduate Bulletin and discuss with their adviser other courses of personal interest that may satisfy this required elective.

Core Requirements: (32 credits); R Ssw 301, 305, 306, 322, 400, 405Z, 406, 408, 409, 410. A grade of C (S) or higher in all core courses is required.

## Admission Requirements

Students interested in the social welfare major must complete an application process. Admission to the program is competitive. Applications are accepted in the Spring semester of the student's sophomore year for entrance into the Fall semester of the junior year. Transfer students who will have completed 56 credits should apply during the Spring of the year for which they are seeking Fall admission.

It is strongly recommended that those wishing to enter the major complete as much of the required elementary base as possible prior to entrance into the program in the junior year. Admissions decisions are based on the following criteria:

- Adequacy of the liberal arts base

- Application essay

- Progress toward completion of elementary base requirements or their equivalents

- Grade point average

- Personal/professional references

- Social welfare/human service experience

The relative merit of any one criterion is considered in light of all others when admissions decisions are made. The overall quality of the application will provide the basis for admissions.

## Field Instruction

This course is an integral part of the total educational process. It offers a student the opportunity to develop, apply and integrate the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes for work in social welfare settings. During the senior year each student is provided field instruction by a qualified instructor in an agency designated by the school. Placements are selected by the school for the students on the basis of their educational needs and, wherever possible, their area of interest. The field placements represent a variety of settings under public and private auspices and are located throughout the Capital District. Students are responsible for the expenses involved in placement.

*TYPICAL PROGRAM  
OF CORE COURSES FOR  
JUNIOR AND SENIOR  
SOCIAL WELFARE  
MAJORS*

<b>JUNIOR YEAR</b>	
<i><u>FALL</u></i>	<i><u>SPRING</u></i>
<b>R Ssw 301</b>	<b>R Ssw 306</b>
<b>R Ssw 305</b>	<b>R Ssw 322</b>
(6 credits)	(6 credits)
<b>SENIOR YEAR</b>	
<i><u>FALL</u></i>	<i><u>SPRING</u></i>
<b>R Ssw 400</b>	<b>R Ssw 406</b>
<b>R Ssw 405Z</b>	<b>R Ssw 409</b>
<b>R Ssw 408</b>	<b>R Ssw 410</b>
(10 credits)	(10 credits)

The following undergraduate courses offered by the school are considered liberal arts and sciences courses for the purpose of requirements for the B.A. and B.S. degrees:

R Ssw 200, 210, 220, 299M, 301, 320, 322, 350, 408, 409, 450, 499.

All courses listed in this section are understood to be preceded by the school's letter *R*.

## Courses

### **R Ssw 200 The Functioning of American Social Systems (3)**

Students are provided with an overview of the functions and relationships of various systems within contemporary American society. The configuration of values underlying system activities is examined, including methods of changing human systems. A social systems perspective is used as the theoretical framework for the course.

### **R Ssw 210 Social Welfare in the United States (3)**

Within the context of societal responsiveness to human needs, this course examines U.S. social welfare policies and programs as influenced by economic, political and social changes. Addresses current public and private social welfare efforts and underlying value issues. Examines the role of professional social work within social welfare. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors only.

**R Ssw 220 Value Issues in Social Welfare (3)**

The course considers implicit and explicit values of societal responses to human needs. From an examination of selected topics in social welfare, the course considers social, economic, ethical, religious, and/or personal values as they affect and are affected by social welfare. May not be offered in 2003-2004. [DP]

**R Ssw 290 Community and Public Service Program (3)**

This course requires a minimum of 100 hours per semester (about 7 1/2 hours per week) of volunteer work in public or private agencies which provide service to the community. A supervised evaluation and seminars are required. Prerequisite(s): sophomore standing and permission of instructor. *S/U* graded.

**R Ssw 291 Human Service in the Community (2)**

This course requires a minimum of 60 hours a quarter volunteer work in public or private agencies that provide service to the community. A supervised evaluation and seminars are required. May not be taken for credit by students with credit for R Ssw 390. Prerequisite(s): sophomore standing and permission of instructor. *S/U* graded.

**R Ssw 299M Families in Middle Age and Late Life (3)**

This course covers issues of the family in our aging society. Some of the topics to be covered include mutual assistance between generations, diversity in older families, family caregiving for the elderly, grandparenthood and great-grandparenthood, sibling relationships in later life, divorce and stepfamilies, widowhood. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

**R Ssw 301 Human Behavior and The Social Environment (3)**

Knowledge of human behavior and the social environment as a basis for generalist practice with individuals, families, groups and communities. Includes theoretical and empirical knowledge about the range of normal bio-psycho-social development and the nature and impact of oppression and discrimination on individuals and families throughout the life course. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor. For majors only.

**R Ssw 305 Social Work Practice I (3)**

Introduction to social work practice. Overview of generalist social work practice; history, values and ethics of social work; role of social work; the helping process in a systems framework; self-awareness and professional use of self; introduction to basic communication skills and social work practice skills with diverse clients; effects of oppression and social injustice. For majors only.

**R Ssw 306 Social Work Practice II (3)**

Continuation of Social Work Practice I: Extends topics for R Ssw 305 with greater emphasis on intervention theories and practice skills for work with an individual, family, group, and community; the contexts and settings of social work practice. Prerequisite(s): R Ssw 301 and 305. For majors only.

**R Ssw 320 Child Welfare (3)**

Covered in this course are the child welfare services employed in dealing with the problems of dependent, neglected, delinquent children. Scope, method, problems and trends are reviewed with regard to each of the services; child welfare in other countries; and sociology of the child welfare worker. Prerequisite(s): R Ssw 200. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

**R Ssw 322 Introductory Research Methods in Social Welfare (3)**

Introduction to quantitative and qualitative 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 and power. Emphasizes methods and content relevant to social work practice and the problems of social welfare. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor. For majors only.

**R Ssw 350 Community Law and Client Advocacy (3)**

This course explains the role of attorneys, social workers and other advocates in our legal system. Examination is made of the legal rights of clients as parents, juveniles, employees, tenants, consumers, welfare clients, the aged and mental patients. Functioning of the courts and administrative agencies in resolving client problems is discussed, as is legal advocacy as a tool. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

**R Ssw 390 Community and Public Service Program (3)**

This course involves volunteer work in public or private agencies involving service to the community. A minimum of 100 hours per semester (about 7 1/2 hours per week) must be spent in the agency, together with seminars examining some aspects of voluntarism and roles of participating agencies. Prerequisite(s): R Ssw 290 and permission of instructor. *S/U* graded.

**R Ssw 400 Field Instruction in Social Welfare I (4)**

Internship in an approved social welfare agency. Hours per week are set to meet acceptable professional standards. Must be taken concurrently with R Ssw 405. *S/U* graded. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor; for majors only; grade of C or higher in R Ssw 301, 305, 306, 322; concurrent with R Ssw 405; attendance of weekly seminar is required.

**R Ssw 405Z Social Work Practice III (3)**

Continuation of Social Work Practice II. Intervention theories and skills for generalist social work practice with an individual, family, group, and community. Assessment and intervention skills at all levels and with diverse clients. Includes professional use of self and written communication in social work practice. Emphasis on application of skills in concurrent field placement. Prerequisite(s): R Ssw 306. Corequisite: R Ssw 400. For majors only.[WI]

**R Ssw 406 Social Work Practice IV (3)**

Continuation of Social Work Practice III. Intervention theories and skills for generalist social work practice with an individual, family, group, and community. Intervention, evaluation and termination skills at all levels and with diverse clients. Emphasis on application of skills in concurrent field placement. Prerequisite(s): Grade of C or higher in R Ssw 405Z. Corequisite: R Ssw 410. For majors only.

**R Ssw 408 Organizational and Community Theory (3)**

An introduction to social work practice at the organizational and community levels, with emphasis on oppressed populations. Includes the history of communities, organizations and macro-practice in social work; major approaches to organizational behavior and community dynamics; the nature of non-clinical social work; the organizational and community contexts for the provision of social services; and skills for working in organizations and communities. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor, R Ssw 210 and 301. For majors only.

**R Ssw 409 Introduction to Social Policy Analysis (3)**

Within an historical context, current social welfare policies and programs will be examined in terms of their rationale, implementation, and effectiveness. The strengths, limitations and alternatives to governmental intervention in social welfare. Emphasis on concepts and frameworks for analyzing social welfare policies and programs, with special attention to their differential impact on at-risk and oppressed populations. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor, R Ssw 408. For majors only.

**R Ssw 410 Field Instruction in Social Welfare II (4)**

Continuation of R Ssw 400. Must be taken concurrently with R Ssw 406. *S/U* graded. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor, R Ssw 400, concurrent with R Ssw 406; grade of C or higher in A Ssw 405Z and A Ssw 408.

**R Ssw 450 Independent Study in Social Welfare (3)**

Independent reading or research on a selected experimental, theoretical or applied problem is planned under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite(s): written permission of instructor and chair of undergraduate program. May be repeated with different content.

**R Ssw 499 Special Areas of Social Welfare (3)**

Consideration of a topic or issue in the field of social work knowledge or practice is selected on the basis of faculty and student interest. May be repeated when topic differs. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor.