

Bachelor of Science Social Work



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The Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Social Work is ideal for those seeking careers in child welfare, health care, youth education, medicine, mental health, addictions, corrections, and juvenile justice. The two components of the curriculum—classroom and field practicum—require knowledge about the theories and models related to human behavior and the social environment, social welfare policy analysis, multicultural social work, human diversity, social and economic justice, social work ethical standards, strengths-based practice, and research.

The major prepares you to specialize in generalist social work practice through personalized mentoring relationships and supervision with licensed, experienced social work faculty and community-based practitioners.

The major delivers a blended curriculum that allows you to connect online classroom knowledge with real-world practice. Achieve critical thinking, problem-solving, clinical, and leadership skills necessary for a successful career—while enrolled in online courses flexible enough to accommodate work, community, and family commitments.

Social Work Major Graduates

By completing Union's social work classroom and field education, you will gain relevant career experience and professional generalist training in a wide range of social services settings, health, and human services programs—addictions, aging and long-term care, child welfare, community and public health, criminal justice, government, medical, youth and education, mental health, and behavioral health care organizations.

Benefits

- Access user-friendly, interactive, online classrooms.
- Attend small classes with personalized advising to guide your academic progress.
- Build professional knowledge and leadership skills for professional generalist social work practice and advocacy.
- Explore career goals through professional, mentoring relationships with licensed, experienced social work faculty and practitioners.
- Connect classroom learning to exciting real-world settings through supervised field placement within a qualified organization in your home community.
- Achieve a strong foundation to apply for graduate study and prepare for the professional licensure examination.

Courses

The major in social work requires a minimum of 48 credits. The curriculum includes the following areas of social work knowledge:

- Ethical Issues in Social Work
- Generalist Social Work Practice with Individuals
- Generalist Social Work Practice with Families
- Generalist Social Work Practice with Communities & Organizations
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- Multicultural Issues in Social Work
- Research Methods in Social Work
- Social Welfare Policy Analysis

Social Work Field Practicum

The field practicum component places you with field settings through the program's national network of professional social work educators and practitioners. Field practicum can be coordinated in a student's local community if the university is authorized to operate in that state. The program requires a minimum of 400 hours of field practicum with concurrent enrollment in the Field Integrative Seminar.

Two-Step Admissions Process

Step 1: Prospective applicants who meet eligibility criteria for admission to the university will be admitted as pre-social work status. The pre-social work status does not lead to a UI&U degree. Pre-social work students must successfully complete the requirements for admission into the Social Work major or select another UI&U major.

Step 2: Pre-social work students who demonstrate satisfactory academic progress will be invited to apply for admission to the Social Work major following successful completion of Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare Policy and Issues. Formal application to the social work program requires submission of a complete application packet.

“My professors were super supportive and encouraging, and years later, I still keep in touch with a number of classmates, professors, and administrators. My experience at Union Institute & University certainly prepared me for my next step in the academic world.”

“Thanks to Union I am able to keep my full-time employment, support my family, and complete my college degree.”

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Our Mission

Union Institute & University educates highly motivated adults who seek academic programs to engage, enlighten, and empower them to pursue professional goals and a lifetime of learning, service, and social responsibility.

Financial Aid available to those who qualify
Recognized as a Military Friendly School



Cincinnati Academic Center

440 East McMillan Street | Cincinnati, OH 45206
800.861.6400 | 513.861.6400 | cinti.admissions@myunion.edu

Florida Academic Center

4601 Sheridan Street, Suite 400 | Hollywood, FL 33021
800.486.7141 | 305.653.7141 | admissions-mi@myunion.edu

Los Angeles Academic Center

6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1200 | Los Angeles, CA 90045
800.486.8328 | 310.417.3500 | admissions-la@myunion.edu

New England Academic Center

28 Vernon Street, Suite 210 | Brattleboro, VT 05301
800.871.8165 x8900 | 802.257.9411 | brattleborocenter@myunion.edu

Sacramento Academic Center

160 Promenade Circle, Suite 115 | Sacramento, CA 95834
800.486.7049 | 916.564.3100 | admissions-sc@myunion.edu

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Union Institute & University is a private, regionally accredited, non-profit university that has, since 1964, taken a different approach to higher education. Union is a nationally recognized university offering programs of study leading to degrees at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral level.

Union Institute & University began with a vision of being a "university without walls"—an institution where working adults could have the opportunity to pursue a degree regardless of where they lived and worked. Many of the most commonly used terms in higher education—nontraditional students, interdisciplinary study, distance learning, mentoring, and social relevance—refer to concepts pioneered by Union more than 50 years ago.

Union Institute & University is a private, non-profit university, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, www.ncahlc.org.

Union Institute & University does not discriminate in its admissions, employment or policy procedures on the basis of age, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, political party affiliation, or physical impairment. UI&U's policies and practices conform with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended. The 504 Coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act may be contacted at adacoordinator@myunion.edu, 800-861-6400 x1144 or 440 E McMillan Street, Cincinnati, OH 45206.