

# Social Work



MESSIAH  
COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES



## The Social Work Major

The social work major at Messiah College is a professional program that integrates knowledge, values, and skills in preparation for generalist entry-level practice in the social work profession and/or admission to graduate school. Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the social work program prepares graduates to work effectively with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in a variety of settings. The curriculum provides practical involvement with agencies established to help those in social, emotional, or economic need.

## Program Mission and Goals

The mission of the social work program at Messiah College is to offer a professional degree with a strong liberal arts foundation that prepares graduates for generalist social work practice at the entry level or for graduate study.

Guided by the accreditation standards of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the program integrates principles of the Christian faith with social work values, knowledge, and skills, along with a commitment to respecting diversity and enhancing social and economic justice for all people.

Program graduates emerge with an understanding of the effects of society's structural inequities rooted in race, class, gender, religious belief/affiliation, sexual orientation, and other forms of oppression. In addition, program graduates are educated to carry out their social work roles with an emphasis on client strengths and the need for increasing clients' access to power and resources.

Graduates are aware that as professionals they are expected to internalize a commitment to continuing their professional growth and development throughout their careers. Furthermore, as Christian social workers whose faith and professional careers are ever evolving, they are expected to grapple regularly with the sources of tension as well as with the areas of compatibility between their Christian faith and the

emphasis of contemporary social work, and the subsequent implications for their professional social work practice, seeking a balance which gives priority to client needs.

## After Graduation

Messiah College encourages all students to give careful consideration to continuing their education at the graduate level.

Social work majors who continue their studies in a CSWE-accredited Master of Social Work program (MSW) are eligible for advanced standing status, and are able to earn an MSW in one year.

*"While I was at the University of Indiana [MSW program], I realized even more what a good education I got at Messiah. I am very grateful."*

—Rebekah Yoder Tucker '04,  
Social Work Program

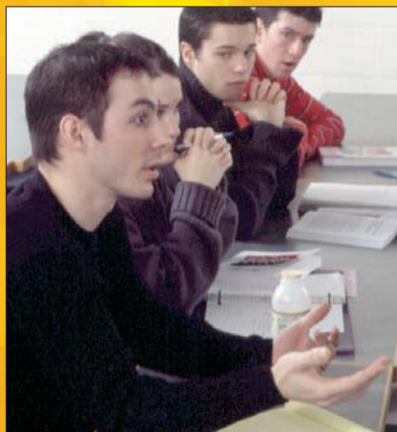
## Curriculum

*Credit hours shown in parentheses*

### Social Work Major (76 credits)

Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare (3)  
Helping Processes I: Practice with Individuals (4)  
Helping Processes II: Practice with Families (4)  
Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3)  
Social Welfare Policies in the United States (3)  
Human Diversity and Social Interaction (3)  
Helping Processes III: Practice with Groups (3)  
Topics in Social Work (3)  
Introduction to Research in Social Work (3)  
Helping Processes IV: Practice with Communities/Organizations (3)  
Preparation for Field Practice (1)  
Seminar in Social Work (3)  
Field Practice in Social Work (12)  
Specialization course in PSY, FAM, or SOC (3)  
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3)  
Introduction to Psychology (3)  
Principles of Sociology (3)  
U.S. History Survey Since 1865 (3)  
Human Biology (4)  
Introductory Statistics (3)  
ECO elective (3)  
American Government (3)

*Although majors and course requirements may change from time to time, as stated in the College catalog, the preceding information is correct according to the 2005–2006 catalog.*



The social work major prepares you for a variety of entry-level positions in the social work profession. Compared to other majors offered in the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice, the social work major provides you with the greatest amount of practical involvement with agencies established to help those in social, emotional, and economic need. It also teaches necessary skills for entry-level employment such as interviewing, recording, and problem-solving.



MESSIAH  
COLLEGE



# Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice

The Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice offers you three majors, six minors, and two concentrations from which to choose:

## Majors:

Criminal Justice  
Social Work  
Sociology

## Minors:

Anthropology  
Criminal Justice  
Peace and  
Conflict Studies  
Sociology  
Urban Studies  
Women's Studies

## Concentrations:

Anthropology  
Criminal Justice

## Our Program

At Messiah College, sociology, social work, and criminal justice are strong liberal arts and professional majors, preparing students to work with people in a variety of ways.

The sociology, social work, and criminal justice programs provide a firm foundation for students to carry out the mission of Messiah College and lead lives of service, leadership, and reconciliation. These programs also prepare students for graduate study, resulting in opportunities for advanced practice, teaching, and research.

The sociology major includes three tracks: sociology, sociology with a concentration in criminal justice, and sociology with a concentration in anthropology. The department also offers six minors: sociology, anthropology, criminal justice, urban studies, peace and conflict studies, and women's studies. A minor in women's studies is offered in cooperation with the departments of psychology, and human development and family science.

The social work major is an accredited, professional program that leads to a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree and qualification for advanced standing status in an accredited Master of Social Work (MSW) program.

The criminal justice major engages the study of issues related to crime and justice from the restorative justice perspective. Steeped in biblical principles, restorative justice seeks healing, wholeness, and reconciliation for all parties touched by crime.

The subject matter of sociology, social work, and criminal justice is intriguing, interesting, and probing. Students develop a deep understanding of the relationship between individuals and society, and they are equipped to be agents of social change. Many students choose sociology, social work, or criminal justice because of the broad liberal arts base. Our programs are a good foundation for professions such as law, education, medicine, social services, ministry, missions, counseling, law enforcement, the judiciary, and corrections. All three programs include opportunities for internships and practicums, which relate "professional" work with academic study.

## Opportunities

Messiah College and the surrounding area provides an excellent environment to carry out studies in sociology, social work, and criminal justice. In addition to the new Boyer Hall on campus, there are many opportunities and resources in urban, rural, and suburban locations.

Boyer Hall, a new state-of-the-art academic facility, includes classrooms, faculty offices, a social science resource room, and specialized facilities dedicated to student use.

Practical application of classroom learning is encouraged and students are often involved in field experiences in various social service agencies in the area. The department trains students in qualitative and quantitative research methods in preparation for graduate study. In addition, students are encouraged to take advantage of external programs, such as studying at Messiah College's Philadelphia campus, which offers students the opportunity to explore issues of diversity, social issues, and potential solutions through immersion in a large city context. Other options include semester-long programs in many parts of the world.

There are student-run organizations for sociology (The Dead Sociologists' Society), social work (Social Work Club) and criminal justice (Criminal Justice Club) majors. In addition, both sociology and social work have local chapters of two National Honor Societies on campus (Alpha Kappa Delta and Phi Alpha).

## Our Faculty

Our faculty hold advanced degrees, have extensive experience in their fields, and are excellent teachers.

As seasoned professionals and published researchers/scholars, our faculty have firsthand experience in academic and applied sociology, social work, and criminal justice, which enhances their classroom teaching. Our criminal justice and social work adjunct faculty are not only engaging professors, but also bring with them many years of experience in the field. Featuring age, ethnic, and gender diversity, our professors are also caring, committed Christians who want to see their students grow academically, spiritually, and personally.

## Our Graduates

While many of our graduates pursue human service jobs, others choose to continue their studies at respected graduate schools across the country.

Our graduates serve and work in many areas, including social service, corrections, child welfare, youth services, gerontology, probation and parole, juvenile and criminal justice, victims services, counseling, healthcare, Christian ministries, law enforcement, government, research, and many other areas.

## About Messiah

A Messiah College education will challenge your intellect, shape your character, and press you to examine your faith.

A private, four-year Christian college, Messiah College offers you a world of opportunities.

You'll share your college experience with other inquisitive students, learning together from professors who are deeply involved in teaching and the emerging scholarship of their fields.

Your college endeavors may include everything from debating in the classroom to researching with the latest lab equipment, from pushing yourself on the athletic field to lifting your voice with a music ensemble, from caving during an Outdoors Club trip to soaring in the skies with the Flying Club, from sharing experiences in your residence hall to serving in towns nearby, cities nationwide, or locations around the world.

And when you graduate, you'll join our nearly 18,000 alumni who are changing the world in every field imaginable. Our alumni are shaping policy in Washington, D.C., reporting on world events, practicing accounting with top firms, and completing graduate degrees at places like Oxford, Yale, Duke, and Harvard. They're working in inner cities and serving with ministries both in the United States and abroad.

For more information, visit our website:  
[www.messiah.edu/departments/socio](http://www.messiah.edu/departments/socio)

Messiah College does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin.

Office of Admissions, P.O. Box 3005, One College Avenue, Grantham, PA 17027 • 1-800-233-4220 • [www.messiah.edu](http://www.messiah.edu)

HIGHER EDUCATION.  
HIGHER CALLING.

