



WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER MAJORING IN SOCIAL WORK AT MESSIAH COLLEGE

Department of Social Work

Dr. Charles Seitz – Department Chair

Mrs. Michelle George – Field Coordinator

Dr. Charlene Lane – Assistant Professor

CONTACT US

- Charles Seitz, Department Chair
Cseitz@messiah.edu; 717-796-1800,
Ext. 3240
- Michelle George, Field Coordinator
Mgeorge@messiah.edu; 717-796-1800,
Ext. 3902
- Charlene Lane, PhD., LCSW
Clane@messiah.edu; 717-796-1800
Ext.2070
- Donna Zack, Administrative Assistant
DZack@messiah.edu; 717-796-1800,
Ext. 2196
- Work Study Students: Mary Dougherty (md1377@messiah.edu) and Elaine
Brandenburg (eb1444@messiah.edu)

SOCIAL WORK FACULTY

Program Director and Associate Professor:

Dr. Charles Seitz, Ph.D., M.S.W., LCSW

I came to Messiah in 2000 after 20 years of service in the field of social work, with the last 13 years focused on directing a large medical social work program in Baltimore. I feel strongly about empowering students to fulfill their calling through service to others and in making sure that all of our students are fully prepared to practice social work once they graduate.

Degrees:

Ph.D. (2006) Counselor Education and Supervision, Regent University, Concentration:

Instruction in Higher Education

M.S.W. (1986) University of Maryland School of Social Work, Concentration: Clinical Social

Work, Specialization: Family and Children's Services

Interests:

Christian counseling models, forgiveness, faith integration and social work practice, medical social work, adolescent pregnancy and sexuality, supervision and consultation

SOCIAL WORK FACULTY

Field Coordinator: Instructor of Social Work
Michelle Dixon George M.S.W, LCSW, BCD

I have spent more than 20 years engaged in clinical practice with children, adolescents, adults, families and couples and I continue to maintain an outpatient counseling practice to keep my skills fresh. My passion in teaching is working with our Social Work students engaged in their field experiences. To watch a developing Social Work student make the leap between classroom learning and real life application is something that I get excited about.

Degree:

M.S.W. (1994) Temple University School of Social Administration
Clinical Concentration

Interests:

Clinical Social Work from a faith perspective, Spiritual Formation,
Diversity and issues of reconciliation, the treatment of clinical
Mental health disorders

SOCIAL WORK FACULTY

Assistant Professor
Charlene Lane, PhD., LCSW

I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in both the states of New York & Pennsylvania. I come to Messiah College with over nineteen years of Clinical as well as Administrative experiences. Additionally, I have taught on both the undergraduate and graduate levels for nine years, first as an Adjunct Professor, then Lecturer and later Assistant Professor in both the states of New York & currently Pennsylvania.

Degree:

M.S.W.- New York University (NY, NY) Concentration: Clinical Social –Work across Life Spectrum
PhD – Adelphi University (Garden City New York) Concentration: Geriatric Mental Health & Aging in Place

Interests:

Researching the lived experiences of older adults in their respective communities, Diversity Studies, Integration of Faith in Clinical Practice & Field Work, Synergy between Social-Work & Criminal Justice

UNIQUENESS OF THE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Nationally accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

- Intentional about integrating faith and practice issues throughout the curriculum
- Balances classroom learning with practical experience; graduates have experience with a minimum of three social service agencies
- B.S.W Graduates from Messiah are enabled to earn an MSW in just one year
- Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and International experiences; Students may spend their senior field placement in an international social work agency

PROGRAM GOALS

To develop competent social workers who critically evaluate, self-reflect and are self-aware of how their Christian faith informs their practice, while performing the duties of their vocation in a professional and ethical manner.

To develop social workers who engage the world to facilitate change through enhancing community and through actively engaging in issues to address social and economic justice in rural, urban and international settings.

To develop effective Christian social work leaders in the provision of micro, mezzo and macro programming who value integrity, service and the importance of human relationships in addressing human needs and the issues of the disenfranchised.

To develop Christian social workers who value empowerment and the strengths perspective in the application of skills and knowledge of generalist social work with systems of all sizes, while ensuring respect for clients' age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender

SOCIAL WORK CURRICULUM

| | Fall | Spring |
|------------|--|--|
| Year One | SOWK 099 Professionalism SOWK 120 Intro to Social Work | SOWK 221 Human Behavior |
| Year Two | SOWK 250 SWK Practice w/ Individuals SOWK 251 Field Experience SOWK 356 Engaging Diversity and Inequality | SOWK 360 SWK Practice w/ Families SOWK 361 Field Experience |
| Year Three | SOWK 372 Practice w/ Groups SOWK 385 Intro to SWK Research | SOWK 382 Topics in Social Work SOWK 420 Social Welfare Policies |
| Year Four | SOWK 475 SWK Practice w/ Communities SOWK 484 Prep for Field Practice | SOWK 485 Seminar in Social Work Practice SOWK 490 Field Practice in Social Work |

SOCIAL WORK COURSES

SOWK 099 Professionalism in SW

The course provides foundational information on specific writing expectations including use of the APA style guide.

**SOWK 120
Intro to Social Work**

This course explores the history and values of Social Work as a profession and discusses the multiple practice area and different practice issues within the social work field.

**SOWK 221
Human Behavior**

This course examines the bio-psycho-social-spiritual-cultural being and the processes by which development occurs throughout the life-cycle, the factors that create and effect human diversity and likeness.

**SOWK 250
SWK Practice w/ Individuals**

This course introduces students to the philosophy and characteristics of a helping relationship, and has a primary focus of teaching students a knowledge base and the skills of working with individuals.

**SOWK 251
Field Experience**

A one-day per week practicum experience runs concurrent with course work and offers an opportunity for students to begin understanding, evaluating, and assessing practice.

**SOWK 360
SW Practice w/ Families**

This course focuses on the development of a knowledge base and the skills necessary to provide Social Work intervention with families-at-risk. Topics include family assessment, treatment planning and evaluation.

**SOWK 361
Field Experience**

A one-day per week practicum experience runs concurrent with course work.

**SOWK 372
SW Practice w/ Groups**

This course studies the dynamics of the small group. Different theoretical conceptualizations of the role of the social worker in the group interventions and services are examined.

**SOWK 475
SW Practice w/
Communities and
Organizations**

This course focuses on macro social work practice, and develops skills in community organizing and networking. Students learn how to address issues and implement change at the organizational/community level.

SOCIAL WORK COURSES

- | | |
|---|---|
| SOWK 356 Engaging Diversity and Inequality | This course is designed to introduce and sensitize students to the forms, practices and effects of discrimination, oppression and economic deprivation and the role of social work in addressing these issues. |
| SOWK 382 Topics in Social Work | This course provides an understanding of the issues and topics related to child welfare and their impact on individuals, families, and communities. |
| SOWK 420 Social Welfare Policies | This course introduces students to social welfare policy and the sociopolitical environment in which welfare policy takes place. Students critically analyze policy and learn policy development.advocacy skills. |
| SOWK 385 Intro to SWK Research | This course is an introduction to the philosophy, concepts principles and methods of empirical research in Social Work, and is intended to develop a student's ability to use research methods in social work practice. |
| SOWK 484 Prep for Field Practice | This course is designed to prepare students to enter their senior year field practice experience. Students also chose their placement and begin developing learning contracts with the agency during this course. |
| SOWK 485 Seminar in Social Work Practice | This is the capstone course for the major and focuses helping students to pull together and knowledge, principles and skills of social work practice. Students review and analyze ethical issues and dilemmas in practice. |
| SOWK 490 Field Practice | This course provides the opportunity for students to practice social work in a specific Social Work related agency and to practice specific social work skills with caries client populations addressing a multitude of issues. |

CONNECTION BETWEEN COLLEGE VALUES, SOCIAL WORK VALUES, AND PROGRAM SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT MODEL

| Program Spiritual Development Model | College Foundational Values | Social Work Values |
|--|--|--|
| Study Simplicity | Unity of Faith, Learning and Life | Integrity |
| Meditation Solitude | Importance of the Person | Dignity and worth of person |
| Worship Prayer | Significance of Community | Importance of human relationships |
| Guidance Celebration | Disciplined and Creative Living | Competence |
| Service | Service | Service |
| Confession Meditation | Reconciliation | Social Justice |

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT

College Spiritual Development Model SOWK Spiritual Development Model

Knowing

Mediation (SOWK 120- Intro)

Study (SOWK 221, 250, 251- Individuals)

Being

Service (SOWK 365- Diversity)

Prayer (SOWK 360, 361- Families)

Worship (SOWK 372- Groups)

Solitude (SOWK 420- Policies)

**Submission (SOWK 475-
Communities/orgs)**

Doing

Confession (SOWK 385- Research)

Simplicity (SOWK 382- Topics)

Guidance (SOWK 484 - Prep for Practice)

SERVICE LEARNING AND SOCIAL WORK

Currently Seven Required Courses

- (SOWK120, SOWK221, SOWK250, SOWK360, SOWK475, SOWK485, SOWK490)
- Developmental Model
- Over 600 hours of community engagement
- Each component is tied directly to curriculum

FIRST AND SECOND YEAR EXPERIENCE

First Year Students: Volunteering in the Community

- Paxton Ministries
- Abba's Place
- Hunger and Homeless Women's Shelter
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Promise Place
- Salvation Army

Second Year Students: Preliminary Practice in the Community – 100 hours

- Harrisburg School District- Early Childhood Program
- Harrisburg School District- Middle School
- New Hope Ministries- Dillsburg and Dover
- YWCA of Harrisburg and Carlisle
- Messiah Village
- Capitol Area Pregnancy Center- Mechanicsburg
- Center For Champions- Harrisburg

THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR EXPERIENCE

Social Work Practice with Groups

- Observing multiple sessions of community educational and treatment groups
- Developing and implementing groups serving the Messiah campus and surrounding communities

Social Work Practice with Communities and Organizations

- Developing and implementing community projects through grant writing, program development, community assessment and community education programs

Seniors Engaged in 450 hours of Social Work Practice

- Milton Hershey School/ Elementary and Middle School- Hershey
- Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging- Harrisburg
- Harrisburg YWCA- Children's Resource Center, Crisis, Shelter

ENGAGING HARRISBURG AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Students are expected to participate in at least one opportunity during course of study in social work
- Third year designed for students to engage the community – in Harrisburg or abroad.
- Specific Plans developed during advising for students to engage one of these programs
- Senior Field Placement: The Department currently has two sites in Uganda and Chicago for seniors desiring to complete their senior placement abroad.

SOCIAL WORK AS A CAREER

Messiah's program is nationally accredited. This means that it meets or exceeds the standards established by the profession to educate social workers.

- Students need to graduate from accredited social work programs to be licensed in each state to practice social work.
- Students who have graduated from Messiah with a B.S.W. can receive advanced standing in a masters in social work program. This means that they can receive their masters (MSW) in one year. It takes two years (full time) for Individuals who enroll in an MSW program who do not have a B.S.W.
- Social Work is a profession and only those with a social work degree can legally call themselves social workers (the title social worker is legally protected in Pennsylvania and many other states across the nation).
- One can expect to earn an average of about \$10,000 more with an M.S.W (Popple & Leighninger, 2002).

THE JOB MARKET FOR SOCIAL WORK- BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Employment for social workers is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through 2016. Job prospects are expected to be favorable, particularly for social workers who specialize in the aging population or work in rural areas.

- Employment of child, family and school social workers is expected to grow by 19 percent, which is faster than the average for all occupations.
- Mental health and substance abuse social workers will grow by 30 percent, which is much faster than the average, over the 2006-16 decade. In particular, social workers specializing in substance abuse will experience strong demand.
- Growth of medical and public health social workers is expected to be 24 percent, which is much faster than the average for all occupations

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-workers.htm#tab-5>

SOCIAL WORK SALARIES: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

The median annual wage for social workers was \$49,470 in May 2018. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$30,750, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$81,400. The median annual wages for social workers in May 2018 were as follows:

\$60,100 for medical and hospital social workers

\$56,200 for healthcare social workers

\$46,270 for child, family, and school social workers

\$44,840 for mental health and substance abuse social workers

\$54,430 for state and local government, excluding education and hospitals

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-workers.htm#tab-5>