



GREATER MIAMI VALLEY JOINT MASW PROGRAM

The Greater Miami Valley Joint MASW between Miami University of Ohio and Wright State University accepted its first students in Fall 2012. This program was approved by the Ohio Board of Regents in Spring 2012. The program was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in June, 2014.

This fact sheet answers the most common questions being asked about this joint MASW program. You may also contact co-directors Dr. Shreya Bhandari at shreya.bhandari@wright.edu, 937-775-2751, or Dr. Sean Newsome at newsomws@muohio.edu, 513-529-3314, with any further questions or to schedule an appointment.

Q. What is the mission of this program?

A. To prepare students from the Greater Miami Valley region to become advanced generalist social work professionals. Graduates will be lifelong learners and leaders. They will contribute to the social work profession through advanced generalist practice. Such practice emphasizes effective practice and policy skill development to promote diversity and cultural competency, social and economic justice, reduce oppression, and improve the broader human condition.

Q. What can I do with a MASW?

A. Persons graduating with a MASW are eligible to become Licensed Social Workers (LSW) and Licensed Independent Social Workers (LISW) in the state of Ohio (www.cswmft.ohio.gov). The scope of practice includes applying advanced generalist knowledge, skills, and values in direct practice, administration, and advocacy across different social service settings working with persons across the lifespan. The largest organization for social workers is the National Association of Social Workers: www.naswdc.org and www.naswoh.org. Another social work organization dedicated to the social advocacy is the Social Welfare Action Alliance: www.socialwelfareactionalliance.org

- Q. If I graduate from this program am I eligible for social work licensure?**
A. As a CSWE accredited program, graduates of this program will be eligible to apply for the LISW. Persons must also receive two years of post-graduate supervision from an LISW and pass the advanced social work exam in order to become an LISW in Ohio. Graduates can apply for the LSW upon graduation.
- Q. How do I apply?**
A. All persons applying to the Greater Miami Valley Joint MASW will apply directly to the Graduate School at Wright State University, www.wright.edu/gradschool, or Miami University, <http://miamioh.edu/graduate-school/admission/index.html>. You will need to complete the application, three letters of reference, and the personal statement of goals.
- Q. When do I apply?**
A. Applications for the regular MASW program are due on February 15 and applications for the Advanced Standing MASW program for eligible BSW students are due January 15. We expect a high volume of applications and will give priority to those students who apply by the deadlines.
- Q. When would I start?**
A. Students accepted into the accelerated program will start in the Summer. Students in the regular MASW program will start in the Fall.
- Q. Isn't it more expensive to attend Miami University?**
A. Miami University has agreed to charge the same tuition rate as WSU for the MASW program. The current rate of tuition at WSU can be found at the WSU Bursar's website <http://www.wright.edu/bursar/tuition-fees>.
- Q. From which university will I be graduating?**
A. Both universities will be listed on the diploma.
- Q. Where will I take classes?**
A. Most classes will be taught at the Miami University Middletown campus. Some classes may be taught at the Miami University Voice of America Campus in West Chester or via Interactive Video Distance Learning (IVDL) classrooms located at both WSU's Dayton campus and Miami University's Oxford campus. Be prepared to drive to any of the locations listed in this paragraph.
- Q. When will the classes be taught?**
A. Classes may be taught in the evening and daytime, Mondays-Saturdays. Currently, most classes are taught after 4:00 pm. It is at the discretion of each faculty member whether classes are held every week.

Q. What are the Admissions requirements for the regular program?

A. In order to be admitted to the Greater Miami Valley Joint MASW, applicants must provide transcripts from all colleges and universities attended to verify the following:

1. a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university;
2. a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 (based on a 4.0 system) from all colleges and universities attended to ensure regular graduate status;
3. a minimum GPA of 3.0 in social work or behavioral science courses.
4. completion of the following behavioral science coursework:
 - a. at least one course in psychology, sociology, or anthropology;
 - b. at least one course in American history, American government, or economics;
 - c. at least one course in human biology; and
 - d. at least one course in statistics.

Q. What are the requirements for the Advanced Standing MSW program for BSW graduates?

A. Requirements for the Advanced Standing Program are:

1. meet all the admission requirements of the Regular MSW Program;
2. have received within the last 5 years before applying, a Bachelor of Social Work degree from a CSWE accredited program OR hold a Bachelor of Social Work degree recognized through the CSWE Recognition and Evaluation service OR hold a Bachelor of Social Work degree covered under a memorandum of understanding with international social work accreditors;
3. have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 on all previous undergraduate academic work attempted. Students must also have a 3.25 or better in all required undergraduate social work courses;
4. have documentation of positive performance in field practicum from the undergraduate field instructor or social work employer.

Q. Is there be a part-time program?

A. Yes. Courses in this program can be spread out over a 3 or 4 year period.

Q. What are the required courses?

A. Listed on the next page are the titles of the courses taught in the Advanced Standing program. Full descriptions of the courses can be found on the program websites.

Greater Miami Valley Joint MASW
Miami University and Wright State University
Sample Curriculum

Advanced Standing Program

| | Summer Semester Year 1 |
|---|--|
| | Graduate Social Work Research I (3 CH) Cultural Competency (3 CH) Advanced Standing Professional Development Seminar (1 CH) Concentration Focus Area Elective (3CH) 10 hours |
| Fall Semester Year 1 | Spring Semester Year 1 |
| Advanced Generalist Social Work Practice I (3CH) Concentration Focus Area Practice Course (3CH) Field Education II (2CH) Field Seminar II (1 CH) Social Work Research II (3 CH) 12 hours | Advanced Generalist Social Work Practice II (3CH) Concentration Focus Area Policy Course (3 CH) Field Education III (2CH) Field Seminar III (1 CH) Social Work Research III (3 CH) 12 hours |

Q. What are the field education requirements?

A. Students in the regular program will complete 900 hours of field education across three different semesters. Students in the Advanced Standing program will complete 500 hours of field education across two different semesters.

Q. Where can I get more information about this proposed program?

A. Contact program co-directors, Dr. Shreya Bhandari, WSU Social Work at 937-775-2751 or shreya.bhandari@wright.edu or Dr. Sean Newsome at newsomws@muohio.edu, 513-52903314. Visit the WSU Social Work website, liberal-arts.wright.edu/social-work, or like us on Facebook for updates @wright.state.socialwork. Visit the Miami University Department of Family Studies and Social Work website at www.units.muohio.edu/eap/fsw.