and an oral defense of the project and report. Is conducted under the supervision of a committee of at least two graduate faculty members, one of whom is the project chairperson. 1-6 Cr.

**REL 798 Thesis (A). Prerequisites:** REL 600, REL 602 (may be taken concurrently), REL 610 (may be taken concurrently), REL 715 (may be taken concurrently). Allows for the preparation and completion of a substantial original research investigation culminating in a master’s thesis and an oral defense of the investigation and thesis. Is completed under the direction of a committee of at least two graduate faculty members, one of whom is the thesis chairperson. 1-6 Cr.

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK**

(585) 395-2324

*Chairperson and Associate Professor:* Diane Dwyer, MSW, University of Buffalo; *Associate Professors:* Kenneth Herrmann, MSW, University of Buffalo; Barbara Kasper, MSW, Syracuse University; Richard Russell, PhD, Syracuse University; *Assistant Professors:* Carmen Aponte, PhD, Ohio State University; Jason Dauenhauer, PhD, University of Rochester; Kristin Heffernen, PhD, Boston College; *Visiting Assistant Professors:* Debra Fromm Faria, MSW, Syracuse University; Margery Saunders, MSW, SUNY Albany; *Coordinator of Field Instruction:* Mary Jo Schlecht, MSW, Syracuse University.

**Master of Social Work**

(585) 395-8450

*Program Director and Associate Professor of Social Work, Nazareth College: Carol Brownstein-Evans, PhD, Syracuse University; Chairpersons:* Diane Dwyer, Associate Professor, The College at Brockport, MSW, University of Buffalo; Virginia David, Professor of Social Work, Nazareth College, MSW, Syracuse University; *Associate Professor:* Richard Russell, PhD, Syracuse University; *Assistant Professors:* Jed Metzger, PhD, New York University; Elizabeth Russell, PhD, University of Rochester; Nicole Trabold, PhD, University of Buffalo; *Director of Field Education:* Debra Fromm Faria, MSW, Syracuse University.

The MSW Program is a unique collaboration between Nazareth College of Rochester and The College at Brockport, both having a long history of social work education in the Rochester area. Consistent with the missions of both schools, the MSW program affirms the tradition of promoting the empowerment of all groups of people to achieve social justice and equality. The primary goal of the program is to enhance the quality of life for individuals within the Rochester community through social work teaching, research, scholarship and service. The program’s commitment is to prepare social workers for advanced integrated practice within an interdisciplinary and community collaborative context. Students will be taught to facilitate individual, family, group, organizational and community change that improves the lives of people, particularly those who have been oppressed and/or disempowered. The program provides opportunities for students to be on the cutting edge of new directions for social-work practice.

Within this advanced integrated perspective, students focus within one of two concentrations: 1) Family and Community Practice and 2) Interdisciplinary Health Care, which are broadly defined and are based on the collaborative perspective of the program. Specifically, the two concentrations prepare students to develop advanced social work knowledge and ethical practice skills by learning and practice within the professional value base of the pro-
fession. Collaboration skills are emphasized and prepare students to work within a community-based practice approach that involves interdisciplinary and interagency cooperative efforts. The main focus on intervention in the community context provides opportunities to assimilate and integrate cultural diversity into change efforts.

The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and is registered with the New York State Department of Education.

**Part-time and Advanced-standing Options**

The 60-credit master's program has a part-time option that allows part-time students to complete the course of study in four years (nine semesters). Students who have graduated from a CSWE-accredited BSW program are eligible to apply for the 39-credit advanced-standing option and complete the program in three semesters (full-time) or six semesters (part-time).

**General Admission Requirements**

The application for admission to the GRC Master of Social Work program may be obtained online at [www.brockport.edu/graduate](http://www.brockport.edu/graduate). For questions, call (585) 395-8450 or e-mail grcmsw@brockport.edu. See the Graduate Admission section of this catalog for further details.

There is no single factor used to determine student admission to the MSW program, rather a combination of factors are considered as follows:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree at an accredited institution (see the Graduate Admissions section in this catalog for further details) with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. Those with a cumulative GPA between 2.5 and 3.0 may apply, but GPA factors heavily in admission decisions.

2. An academic record that reflects a strong liberal arts perspective, as evidenced in official transcripts. The following are required: one (three-credit) course in human biology; one (three-credit) course in statistics; one (three-credit) introductory in psychology; one (three-credit) introductory course in sociology; one (three-credit) course in the humanities; three additional (three-credit) courses distributed among the humanities, social sciences, physical sciences, mathematics or computer science. All courses must have a grade of “C” or better.

3. Prior paid or volunteer experience and its relevance to social work.

4. Three reference forms and accompanying letters of reference that specify the applicant's ability to do graduate-level work and the applicant's commitment to social work.

5. Completion of the personal/professional statement and social issue discussion as described in the application form. This written statement is an essential part of the admissions file. The content and writing style provides important information about the applicant and her/his understanding of the social work profession. Applicants should consider the written statement as an opportunity to communicate with the Admissions Committee about their specific strengths, professional goals and future plans.

6. As demonstrated in the written statement, through letters of recommendation, in the applicant's academic record and in the applicant's work history:
   - A serious commitment to the profession of social work.
   - A capacity to engage in personal and professional self-awareness.
   - The readiness and preparation to engage in graduate-level studies.
   - The personal qualifications considered essential for sound social work practice. These include concern for the needs of others, sensitive and relationship skills, good judgment, creativity and integrity.

**Advanced-standing Admission**

Students who have graduated within the past eight years from a CSWE-accredited baccalaureate social work program are eligible to apply for admission to the MSW advanced standing
program. Additional minimum admission requirements are:

1. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
2. A copy of the applicant's field practicum evaluations.
3. A personal/professional statement and social issue discussion as described in the application form.
4. Three letters of recommendation, including one from a social work faculty member who can attest to the applicant's ability to do graduate-level work, and one from a social work supervisor who can attest to the applicant’s ability to engage in graduate-level practice.

**Tuition**

Since the MSW Program operates as a bi-institutional collaborative program, the tuition structure for this program varies from the tuition of The College at Brockport. Applicants may contact the program directly at *(585) 395-8450* for program specific information, including current tuition rates, or may refer to the program Web site at [www.brockport.edu/grcmsw/](http://www.brockport.edu/grcmsw/).

**General Program Requirements and Curriculum**

The curriculum is an advanced integrated model delivered within the framework of collaborative community-based practice. The theoretical underpinnings of the curriculum are knowledge and skill development from a systems and ecological perspective. The core first-year courses and field practicum integrate the problem-solving process through a strength-based empowerment model as the main theme of the generalist perspective. Both the 60-credit program and the 39-credit advanced-standing program have full-time and part-time options.

**Foundation-year Courses**

Foundation courses are designed to provide a generalist perspective. The following foundation level courses are required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWK 501</td>
<td>Social Work Practice I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 502</td>
<td>Social Work Practice II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 504</td>
<td>Field Practicum I and Seminar I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 505</td>
<td>Field Practicum II and Seminar II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 506</td>
<td>Human Behavior/Social Environment I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 507</td>
<td>Human Behavior/Social Environment II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 508</td>
<td>Diagnostic Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 520</td>
<td>Social Welfare Policy and Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 524</td>
<td>Social Work Practice and Cultural Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 533</td>
<td>Social Work Research Methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In lieu of the above foundation courses, BSW Advanced-Standing students must complete the following bridge courses prior to taking concentration courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWK 503</td>
<td>Seminar for Advanced Standing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 508</td>
<td>Diagnostic Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Concentration-year Courses**

The second-year curriculum is designed to provide the framework for advanced integrated practice and consists of two concentrations: Family and Community Practice and Interdisciplinary Health Care Practice. Students choose a concentration at the time of application. The following courses are required for both concentrations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWK 610</td>
<td>Field Practicum III and Seminar III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 611</td>
<td>Field Practicum IV and Seminar IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 630</td>
<td>Master's Project Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 631</td>
<td>Master's Project Implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Family and Community Practice
The Family and Community Practice concentration prepares students to plan, develop and implement family-focused services from a collaborative, community-based perspective. The following are required courses in the concentration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWK 601</td>
<td>Social Work Practice III: Family and Community Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 603</td>
<td>Social Work Practice IV: Family and Community Empowerment, Advocacy and Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 620</td>
<td>Advanced Social Welfare Policy: Families and Communities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interdisciplinary Health Care
The Interdisciplinary Health Care Practice concentration prepares students for practice in diverse health-care settings. A public health model of community intervention is emphasized. The following are required courses in the concentration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWK 602</td>
<td>Social Work Practice III: Interdisciplinary Health Care Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 604</td>
<td>Social Work Practice IV: Interdisciplinary Health Care Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWK 621</td>
<td>Advanced Social Welfare Policy: Interdisciplinary Health Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MSW Course Descriptions

SWK 501 Social Work Practice I (B). Prepares students for generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations. Introduces students to the history of social work practice, the place and purpose of generalist practice, and the beginning phases of practice relationships. Considers assessment and developing relationships from a cross-cultural, strength-based, community collaborative perspective across the five client systems. Develops a practice perspective focusing on empowering client systems to address issues of economic and social justice. 3 Cr.

SWK 502 Social Work Practice II (B). Prepares students for generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations. Emphasizes practice with communities and organizations. Introduces students to the work and termination phases of practice. Interventions are considered from a cross-cultural, strength-based, community collaborative perspective across the five client systems. Emphasizes interventions that focus on empowerment of client systems to address issues of economic and social justice. Considers roles such as conferee, enabler, broker, advocate, mediator and guardian. 3 Cr.

SWK 503 Advanced Standing Seminar (B). Provides the advanced standing student an opportunity to review the theoretical foundations and application of social work practice skills. Emphasizes the processes involved in individual, family, group, organizational and community interventions from a collaborative perspective. Acquaints students with the theoretical underpinnings of an integrated community collaborative practice approach. 3 Cr.

SWK 504 Field Practicum I and Seminar I (B). Provides the foundation-year, first-semester, agency-based field and seminar internship experience. Provides the required 448 hours of field practice in the first year through completion of two days of field instruction per week over 14 weeks. Uses educational learning objectives developed by the student, field instructor and faculty liaison to provide student learning opportunities in interaction with individuals, groups, organizations and larger community systems. Integrates course work and field instruction experiences in the foundation year. Uses assignments and student-generated discussions to enhance knowledge and skill development based on practice situations. Seminar faculty serve as the first- and second-semester field liaison for students in the practicum. 3 Cr.

SWK 505 Field Practicum II and Field Seminar II (B). Provides the foundation year, second semester, agency-based field and seminar internship experience. Provides the required 448 hours of field practice in the first year through completion of two days of field instruction per week over 14 weeks. Uses educational learning objectives developed...
SWK 506 Human Behavior and Social Environment I (B). Examines major social science theories that inform the social work profession's understanding of human behavior in social systems primarily focused on groups, families and individuals. Uses an ecological/systems framework, together with a developmental approach and a diversity perspective, to provide an interactional understanding of human behavior. Emphasizes relationships among biological, social, psychological and cultural systems. 3 Cr.

SWK 507 Human Behavior and Social Environment II (B). Examines major social science theories that inform the social work profession's understanding of human behavior in social systems, primarily focused on communities and organizations. Uses an ecological/systems framework together with a developmental approach and a diversity perspective to provide an interactional understanding of human behavior. Explores principles of community development and organizational analysis. Examines linkages between the five social systems with the principles of community collaboration. 3 Cr.

SWK 508 Diagnostic Process (B). Examines mental health challenges from an integrative and ecological perspective. Promotes understanding of the etiology, clinical presentation and diagnosis of major mental health challenges for children, adolescents, adults and older adults. Uses both DSMIV-TR and strengths-based understanding and assessment of mental health challenges. 3 Cr.

SWK 520 Social Welfare Policy and Services (B). Studies historical aspects and the current nature of major programs of social welfare, develops skills in analyzing social welfare policies and programs, and explores strategies for influencing policy at various levels. Introduces students to philosophical and historical perspectives of social-welfare services and social-work practice, and attempts to foster the development of not only descriptive, but also analytical and critical understanding of social welfare programs, policies and services. 3 Cr.

SWK 524 Social Work Practice and Cultural Diversity (B). Provides preparation for the student to engage in sensitive, culturally competent, cross-cultural and cross-ethnic social work practice. Focuses on processes of oppression in society, and the experiences, needs and responses of people who have been subjected to institutionalized forms of oppression because of their particular collective characteristics. Emphasizes social work theory, knowledge and practice skills in order to guide culturally competent interventions aimed at addressing the needs of diverse groups. Stresses cognitive and affective processes throughout the course. 3 Cr.

SWK 525 Social Work Practice and Cultural Diversity - Advanced Standing (B). Offered in the summer semester of advanced standing study. Builds upon foundation-year content related to knowledge and skill building for sensitive, culturally competent, cross-cultural and cross-ethnic social work practice. Emphasizes helping advanced-standing students deepen and broaden knowledge and skills in order to guide culturally competent interventions aimed at addressing the needs of diverse groups. Stresses cognitive and affective processes throughout. 3 Cr.

SWK 533 Social Work Research. Provides a thorough review of all basic research concepts with an emphasis on program and practice evaluation. Ensures knowledge of and familiarity with all necessary research computer skills, including library research, and quantitative and qualitative data analysis. 3 Cr.

SWK 540 Social Work and Family Law (B). Examines the impact of family law on social work and the daily activities of the social worker. Provides the social worker with a basic knowledge of concepts in jurisprudence and specific understanding of family court and its enabling legislation The Family Court Act. Includes lectures by experts in the fields of juvenile delinquency, persons in need of supervision, custody, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, adoption and criminal justice. Emphasizes the role of the social worker in court, including responding to subpoenas, confidentiality and testifying effectively. Stresses the practical and realist philosophy of law. 3 Cr.

SWK 542 AIDS and Social Work: Policy and Practice Issues (B). Considering the pandemic of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), which has implications for social workers in all practice settings, provides in-depth knowledge about HIV disease to produce social workers to provide community leadership. Helps students become more aware of the 1) medical realities of HIV disease; 2) psychosocial implications of the illnesses related to treatment issues; 3) policy issues relevant to the illness; 4) methods of prevention; 5) issues related to professional practice with
persons who test antibody-positive to HIV; and 6) program planning issues, from program design to implementation. Assists students to provide culturally sensitive services to those infected/affected. 3 Cr.

SWK 600 Independent Study (B). Arranged in consultation with the instructor/sponsor and in accordance with procedures of appropriate academic offices prior to registration. 1-6 Cr.

SWK 601 Social Work Practice III: Family and Community Practice (B). Develops knowledge and advanced skills in approaches that effectively enhance, preserve and restore family functioning within a community context. Focuses on the knowledge base for work with families (and the communities within which they live) who face the challenges of poverty, mental illness, minority status, family violence, sexual abuse, drug abuse, alcoholism and major losses. Emphasizes developing advanced skills in assessment, intervention and evaluation. Integrates the influence of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, developmental stage, organizations, the community and the wider societal context throughout the course. 3 Cr.

SWK 602 Social Work Practice III: Social Work Interdisciplinary Health Care (B). Emphasizes the delivery of health care services in a community context from a public health perspective. Examines the roles of social workers in the current model of health care delivery and focuses on the collaborative nature and new directions for health care organizations and services. 3 Cr.

SWK 603 Family/Community Empowerment, Advocacy and Development (B). Develops knowledge and advanced skills in approaches that effectively enhance, preserve and restore communities and their capacity to support families. Focuses on the knowledge base for work with communities within which families live, and skills to address the challenges of poverty, mental illness, minority status, family violence, sexual abuse and substance abuses. Emphasizes developing advanced skills in assessment, intervention and evaluation. Integrates the influence of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, developmental stage, organizations, the community and the wider social context. Emphasizes empowerment and advocacy skills to help families create just and compassionate communities. 3 Cr.

SWK 604 Social Work Practice IV: Interdisciplinary Health Care II (B). Continues the examination of interdisciplinary health care emphasizing practice, knowledge and skill development necessary to function within the Managed Care delivery system. Examines theoretical approaches to develop advanced practice skills in the collaborative context of community-based interdisciplinary service-delivery systems. 3 Cr.

SWK 610 Field Practicum III and Seminar III (B). Provides concentration year, first-semester, agency-based field instruction experience and classroom seminar for advanced learning and practice opportunities relevant to the specific concentration of students. Requires completing three days of field instruction per week over 14 weeks fall and spring semesters for a total of 560 hours. Builds on the previous semesters and is progressive in knowledge and skill development. Integrates course work and field instruction experiences. Uses assignments and student-generated discussions to enhance knowledge and advanced skill development based on practice situations. Seminar faculty serve as the first- and second-semester field liaison for students in the practicum. 4 Cr.

SWK 611 Field Practicum IV and Seminar IV (B). Provides the concentration-year, second-semester, agency-based field instruction experience and classroom seminar for advanced-learning and practice opportunities relevant to the specific concentration of students. Integrates course work and field-instruction experiences. Integrates course work and field instruction. Uses assignments and student-generated discussions to enhance knowledge and advanced skill development based on practice situations. Field seminars in the concentration year are taken each semester concurrent with field practicum. Seminar faculty serve as the first- and second-semester field liaison for students in the practicum. 5 Cr.

SWK 620 Advanced Social Welfare Policy: Families and Communities (B). Builds upon the basic foundation-year, Social Policy course. Focuses on problems, policies and planning from the perspective of their impact on families and communities, an understanding of the American social welfare system, human behavior and social systems, and advanced generalist social work practice. Recognizing the fundamental duty of the social work profession to promote social equity and justice, focuses on policy practice geared towards helping oppressed and stigmatized families within a community context. 3 Cr.


SWK 630 Master's Project Development (B). Requires students to develop, implement and evaluate a master's project. May be developed independently or within a small group. Assists
students in formulating a master's project proposal. Uses a seminar format with specific tasks and topics to be covered coming from the interests of the class. Requires students to read and critique each other's proposals before they are submitted to faculty. 3 Cr.

SWK 631 Masters Project Implementation (B). Requires students to develop, implement and evaluate a master's project. May be developed independently or within a small group. Supports students in the implementation and evaluation of their master's project. Uses a seminar format with specific tasks and topics to be covered coming from the interests of the class. Requires students to read and critique each other's proposals before they are submitted to faculty. Also requires students to develop a research colloquium to present their work. 3 Cr.

SWK 640 Special Topics (B). Provides an opportunity for in-depth class exploration of special topics in social work. Topics vary and change from year to year depending on the interests of students and faculty. 3 Cr.

SWK 642 Contemporary Issues (B). Provides an opportunity for students and faculty to explore contemporary issues outside of the regular course offerings. 3 Cr.

SWK 644 Case Management (B). Provides a theoretical and practical understanding of case management. Critically examines the role of case management and how it relates to both advanced generalist practice and each of the two program concentrations (Family and Community Enhancement and Interdisciplinary Health Care). Explores the historical evolution of case management and its relation to various social work perspectives, functions, practice principles and current issues. 3 Cr.

SWK 646 Management and Fiscal Administration in Human Services (B). Examines the structure and functions of nonprofit organizations and agencies. Explores concepts and theoretical constructs of administration and financial management, along with the value of administration and management skills in agencies and organizations. Covers budgeting and accounting principles in the context of cost-effectiveness of service delivery. 3 Cr.

SWK 647 Supervision and Consultation (B). Identifies and examines central concepts, theories and models of supervision and consultation. Considers strategies and techniques for establishing, improving and maintaining supervisory and consultative relationships as mechanisms for improving service to clients. Gives special attention to organization dynamics and structure, delineating the management function, and to issues of power and authority. Emphasizes the dynamics of supervision and consultation, ethical and value principles, professional boundaries, supervision and consultation as leadership functions, and the importance of collaborative processes. 3 Cr.

SWK 648 Community Collaboration and Organizational Leadership (B). Examines the concepts, principles and related theories of organizational behavior and leadership, and collaborative planning. Focuses on building a knowledge base for understanding approaches to management of organizational internal and external environments. Examines interprofessional, organizational and interdisciplinary community collaboration as an emerging direction for human services. 3 Cr.

Additionally, the department offers the following graduate courses, which can be applied as requirements and/or electives in degree programs as determined through the advisement process

SWO 574 Child Welfare (A). Covers the historical development of child-welfare services in the United States and other nations, and related social-welfare policies affecting child and society and family. Emphasizes child abuse/neglect, foster care, adoption, exploitation, adolescent pregnancy and legal status. Examines the rights of the child. 3 Cr.

SWO 576 Issues of Aging in America (A). Examines the older person as an evolving individual; bio-psycho-social elements in the aging process; and major issues related to the older person, the aging process and the society. Compares the needs of the elderly with the service system's response and discusses methods of intervention specifically needed for the older person. 3 Cr.

SWO 577 Perspectives on Older Adults and the Aging Family (A). Provides in-depth analysis of select issues faced by older adults and their families using a multi-systems perspective and service learning activities. Bridging theory and practice, content utilizes a case study methodology to reflect practice-based situations encountered by health providers, older adults and their families. Topics include family caregiver/care recipient experiences, loss/resiliency, advance directives/end-of-life decision-making, impact of substance abuse on aging families, and elder abuse. 3 Cr. Spring.

SWO 578 Developmental Disability (A). Examines and analyzes developmental disabilities in individual, family and group practice experience; and policy and planning in the development, coordination and impact on delivery systems. 3 Cr.