

Master of Social Work

Fall 2023 Admissions



CSUN

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHRIDGE

Learn ▪ Empower ▪ Change

Department Mission

The mission of the California State University, Northridge Department of Social Work is to prepare professional social workers to be anti-oppressive, socially just agents of change who promote well-being in urban settings. As an advanced generalist program with a focus on urban communities, the Department will teach and create collaborative learning experiences with students.

Focus

Urban settings describe communities with densely populated areas and a vast array of subcultures. Utilizing a lens that espouses an anti-racist, intersectional, trauma-informed, collaborative perspective, the Department celebrates a strengths-based inclusive identity, emphasized by the shared experiences of community, culture, and location.

Goals

We will:

- Examine and apply an intersectionality, power, and privilege lens to address social, political, and systemic change.
- Empower and be relevant to the diverse needs of the multi-national, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural San Fernando Valley and its surrounding communities.
- Advocate for an equitable and socially just society.
- Enhance critical consciousness through research, practice, and trauma-informed knowledge, values, and skills.

MSW Cohorts



Dr. Jodi Brown,
Department Chair

Our program offers a graduate-level social work education that concentrates on urban communities. This focus offers students opportunities to learn and develop strategies for working in any urban environment at any level – from individual/family to group/community to societal/policy. CSUN's MSW degree prepares students for careers as administrators, community advocates, counselors, policy makers, researchers, supervisors and service workers in a wide variety of settings, including community and government organizations, behavioral health centers, hospitals, and schools.

Because the program features a substantial field education component, students are exposed to practice with vulnerable and at-risk populations, an experience that stimulates student interest in advocacy and social justice.

We aim to train passionate critical thinkers who are ready and able to support and advocate with and on behalf of the diverse communities and clients found within the Los Angeles area and beyond. To meet the needs of our applicants we offer three cohort options.

Applicants may be interested in more than one cohort at the time of application. On-campus (state-support) and online (self-support) cohorts may differ by tuition cost, eligibility for various types of financial aid and grants, and/or eligibility for other types of resources and services (ie. limited stipend opportunities that have specific eligibility criteria). If offered admission to the program, it is the applicant's responsibility to clarify which type of aid, resources, and services they may be eligible for based upon their cohort choice prior to joining the program.



On-Campus Cohorts (state-support)

TWO YEAR ON-CAMPUS COHORT

Students complete 60 graduate units, including 16 hours per week of field placement internship in the first year, and 20 hours of field placement internship in the second year.

Foundation-year (first-year) students attend classes on Tuesdays and Fridays, and are in their field placements two business days per week. Concentration-year (second-year) students attend classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and are in their field placements on Mondays, Wednesdays, and/or Fridays.

THREE YEAR ON-CAMPUS COHORT

Students complete 60 graduate units, including 16 hours per week of field placement internship year-round in the 1st and 2nd years. In the 3rd year, students are in classes only, and complete their capstone graduate project. Students attend classes year-round. Classes are held Tuesdays from 6:00-9:45pm, Thursdays from 6:00-8:45pm.

Field placement schedules vary based on agency business hours, but applicants must identify at least one business day per week for availability. DCFS employees have their field placements in the 2nd and 3rd years of the program.



Online / Off-Site Cohorts (self-support)

TWO YEAR ONLINE COHORT

The MSW online program is a two-year (four-semester), asynchronous, full-time program with the exception of a weekly synchronous field education class. This means that students do not have to be online at a specific time for most of the academic classes except to attend a weekly, one-hour (synchronous) online field education class. Students take two eight-week courses at a time, plus ongoing 16-week field education classes, for a total of 20 classes (60 graduate units).

Students will not be required to come to the CSUN campus or any other affiliate university campus during the four-semester online MSW program.

Field hours will be 16 hours per week during the entire duration of the program. Students must be available for field placement Monday-Friday, from 9-6pm. Evening and weekend field placements are unavailable. It is not possible for students to complete a field internship at their place of employment.

APPROXIMATE TUITION COSTS

On-Campus Two-year:	\$16,944*	Online:	\$45,120**
On-Campus Three-year:	\$27,350*		

*Cost of tuition is based on Fall 2022 and will be different for non-California residents, please visit <http://www.csun.edu/stufin/tuition>

**Tuition rates determined by Tseng College; figure is based from Fall 2021 (TBA for Fall 2023)




A portrait of Humberto Solis-Flores, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a black t-shirt with the text "PROUD TO BE A MATADOR". He is standing outdoors in front of a building and some greenery.

Humberto Solis-Flores

On-Campus Two Year Cohort


San Fernando, CA

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“The MSW program’s generalist perspective offers a plethora of experience in all facets of social work. From structural inequality and heteropatriarchy to the individual experience and how it all connects. The experience you gain is key in deciding what your focus will be once you graduate. Not only are the professors available in the classroom, but they are accessible outside of the classroom. The mentorship and support I have received from my professors has been unparalleled.”

Field Education

Field placement days and times are determined by the CSUN MSW Field Education Department, based on agency needs, student schedules and employer approval. Students must be available for field placement Monday-Friday, from 9-6pm. Evening and weekend field placements are unavailable. It is not possible for students to complete a field internship at their place of employment. If offered admission to the CSUN MSW Program, students are required to successfully complete a field internship interview.

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“The CSUN MSW program has served as a professional and personal growing experience. My first year placement at Olive View-UCLA Medical center was challenging. However, the support I received from the entire staff at the hospital as well as my field class was outstanding. Getting to class every morning and being able to debrief on what occurred the previous day at my internship while receiving feedback from classmates and professors helped me reflect on my experiences. It has also helped me become a better practitioner.”

A portrait of Jessica Reyes, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a white tank top. She is sitting outdoors in front of a building and some greenery.

Jessica Reyes

On-Campus Two Year Cohort

Pacoima, CA

MSW Curriculum

Foundation Courses

- 501:** Human Behavior in the Social Environment I
- 502:** Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
- 503:** Psychosocial Assessment and Diagnostic Formulation
- 510:** Generalist Social Work Theory and Practice I
- 520:** Social Work Practice in Multicultural Settings
- 521:** Generalist Social Work Theory and Practice II
- 522:** Foundations of Field Education I
- 523:** Foundations of Field Education II
- 525:** Social Policy and Services
- 535:** Research Methods for Social Knowledge and Practice

Concentration Courses

- 601:** Advanced Social Work Practice
- 602:** Advanced Social Work Practice with Urban Families II
- 621:** Advanced Social Work Practice in Urban Communities
- 622:** Advanced Field Practicum with Urban Families I
- 623:** Advanced Field Practicum with Urban Families II
- 630:** Family Crisis, Trauma and Grief
- 635:** Advanced Skills in Program Evaluation and Research with Urban Families
- 645:** Urban Social Policy and Advocacy
- 650:** Elective
- 698:** Graduate Project

Graduate Project

Offered as the culminating experience of the MSW Graduate Program, students complete an individual or group research project reflecting the students' interests and needs in working with urban families. Outcomes of this seminar will require students to collect, analyze and report direct observations; write a research paper that includes a title page, abstract, background, methods and discussion sections conforming to APA Publication Manual guidelines; and present a poster in an open community-invited forum. This project meets the culminating experience requirements.



“Capstone allowed us the opportunity to use photo voicing as an advocacy tool to examine the growing needs, concerns, and experiences of transgender and gender nonconforming community members through an empowering social justice lens. We learned a lot from the incredible individuals who participated in our projects, and we are humbled and forever grateful for the opportunity to hear their beautiful stories.”

Admissions Requirements

For the University

- Have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or college.
- Be in good standing at the last institution attended.
- Have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) or in the last 60 semester/90 quarter units of their undergraduate degree. If the applicant is still in the process of completing their degree, we will look at the last 60 chronological units.

For the Department of Social Work

- Applicants must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college. A liberal arts background with some coursework in the social, behavioral and biological sciences is strongly preferred.
- Applicants must present evidence of the ability to complete graduate study.
- Individuals applying should demonstrate evidence of personal maturity, including the ability to withstand difficult emotional challenges, a commitment to interpersonal processing within the parameters of cultural expectations, respect for others and for their life decisions, a readiness to learn advanced clinical and macro practice and research skills, a commitment to social justice and to the profession's Code of Ethics (<https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp>) and a capacity for flexibility and creativity.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have had post-baccalaureate work experience. Academic credit, however, cannot be given for prior life and work experience.

Online Technology & Computer Competency Requirements

Please know that there are minimum technical requirements and computer skills that are specific to the Online MSW program.

Information on the requirements is available at: <http://tsengcollege.csun.edu/studentinfo/technical-requirements>



Information Sessions

September 12, 2022

October 19, 2022

November 14, 2022

December 7, 2022

Location:

Zoom link will be provided upon
RSVP

Please click [here](#) for RSVP
Information.

Important Dates

On-Campus Application Opens:

October 1, 2022

Online Application Opens:

October 4, 2022

Final Deadline:

January 10, 2023

Application Available:

www.csun.edu/msw (on-campus)

msw.csun.edu (online)

Contact Information

MSW

On-Campus MSW Program

Contact msw@csun.edu

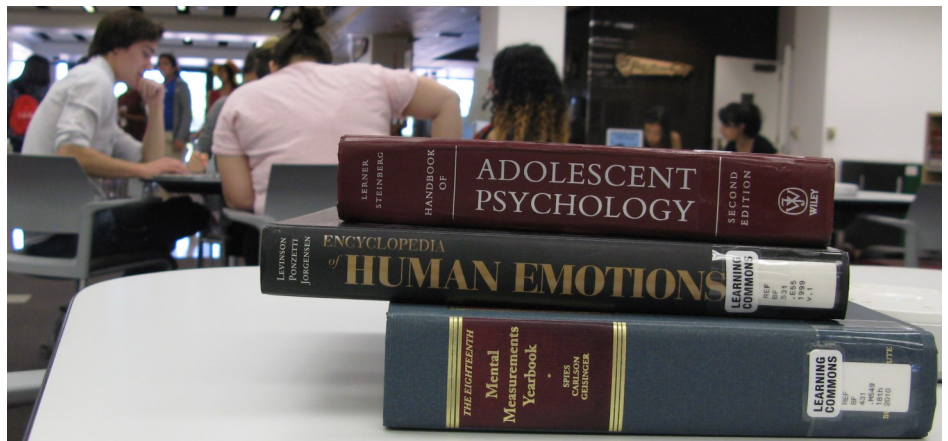
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