

**Mother Patern College of Health Sciences
Academic Program For Bachelor Degree in Social Work**

Program Title	Social Work
Award Title	Bachelor Degree in Social Work
Duration:	4 years
Location of study	Mother Patern College of Health Sciences Campus

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK OVERVIEW

Vision and Mission Statements

The vision of the BSW Degree Program at Mother Patern College of Health Sciences (MPCHS) is to develop and implement a rigorous four-year Social Work Program that requires students to study, master, and professionally apply a specified body of knowledge and skills. This program is grounded in a solid foundation of liberal arts coursework and core social work content and social work research, to problem solve in the context of a planned change process and Christian Education of the Catholic Archdiocese of Monrovia.

The mission of Mother Patern College of Health Science's Bachelor Social Work Degree program is to train competent and skilled professionals for entry-level generalist social work practice focusing on specified liberal arts foundation content and religious values within the Catholic faith in post-war Liberia.

Social Work Program Non-Discrimination Policy for Students

The social work program at Mother Patern College of Health Sciences is committed to creating a caring, diverse and accepting environment for all its students. The program upholds the moral teachings of Jesus Christ and consequently affirms the worth and right to personal dignity of all persons. The program forbids any acts of illegal discrimination in its admission or educational policies and practices, in accordance with biblical principles and the laws of the Liberia.

Policy of Student Diversity

1. In keeping with Catholic teaching, the social work program provides equal educational opportunity. Committed to the belief that all human beings are created equal in the image of God, all must be afforded worth, dignity and respect. In regards to recruitment, admission, financial aid, retention and graduation policies and practices, the program does not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of class, culture, ethnic or national origin, gender, sex, age, race, color, political orientation, disability, marital status, or family structure.
2. The program is committed to equal educational opportunities for minorities, women and persons with disabilities.
3. The social work program is committed to open access to all educational, organizational and social and religious activities for every member.

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Description of Field Practicum at Mother Patern College of Health Sciences

This is a 400-hour, two-semester field practicum experience in a professional social work setting. The faculty of MPCHS in multiple agencies, churches, schools, hospitals, community centers and organizations in Liberia supervises students. Concurrently with the field practicum placement, a capstone seminar is held weekly to review and critically analyze each student's field practicum experience. Special attention is placed on the student's integration of the generalist perspective and the generalist practice method of social work into their field practicum placement.

Program Goals

The goals of Mother Patern College of Health Science's social work department are:

1. The MPCHS BSW program prepares graduates who will be qualified to competently and ethically work with diverse populations as well as practice with people-at-risk in post war Liberia and anywhere in the world.
2. The program emphasizes preparation social work practice, integrating the existing programs: (1) Basic Social Work Skills training, (2) HIV/AIDS, (3) Trauma counseling, and (4) Women, gender, and violence program areas.
3. The MPCHS BSW program integrates its curriculum within a broad liberal arts foundation and the Catholic tradition.

Program Objectives Field Practicum Course Objectives

The objectives of Mother Patern College of Health Sciences Social Work program and field practicum are:

1. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of professional social work practice.
2. Understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards and principles, and practice accordingly.
3. Practice without discrimination and with respect, knowledge and skills related to clients' age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex and sexual orientation.
4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and apply strategies of advocacy and social change that advance social and economic justice.
5. Understand and interpret the history of the social work profession and its contemporary structures and issues.
6. Apply the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice with systems of all sizes.
7. Use theoretical frameworks supported by empirical evidence to understand individual development and behavior across the life span and the interactions among individuals and between individuals and families, groups, organizations and communities.
8. Analyze, formulate and influence social policies.
9. Evaluate research studies, apply findings to practice and evaluate their own practice interventions.
10. Use communication skills differentially across client populations, colleagues and communities.

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11. Use supervision and consultation appropriate to social work practice.
12. Function within the structure of organizations and service delivery systems and seek necessary organizational change.
13. Integrate a Catholic perspective with the knowledge, skills, and values of the social work profession.
14. Understand and apply the principles of a strengths perspective to generalist practice with client systems of all sizes.

General Education Objectives

The social work major at Mother Patern College of Health Sciences must complete a total of 124 semester credit hours. To develop a strong liberal arts foundation every social work major must complete 48 semester credits of liberal arts courses.

Liberal Arts Support and Sequencing:

The 48 semester credit hours of liberal arts courses are designed to enhance, enrich and develop the social work major's professional program. The freshman year supports a liberal arts foundation by introducing the student to General Psychology and Sociology (necessary preparation for Introduction to Social Work and HBSE I and II), English Composition, Cultural Anthropology and Social Deviance also (necessary preparation for HB/SE I and II).

In the sophomore year the students take two additional English courses, and courses in Philosophy and Population Studies. Two Ethics courses are required during the junior and senior years rounding off the liberal arts courses that contribute to the complete education of the social work student.

Mother Patern's Generalist Social Work Practice

Generalist social work practice is a holistic, multilevel, ecological approach, based on professional knowledge, values and skills. This generalist practice is used:

- To influence change with diverse client issues and systems (individuals, families, organizations, communities and nations).
- To intervene by utilizing planned strategies, based on a wide range of theories selectively employed.
- To address multiple issues and to achieve desired change.
- To assume a variety of professional roles (e.g.: broker, educator, mobilizer, mediator, facilitator, advocate, activist, etc.) to address solutions and/or prevent problems.
- To develop global awareness and sensitivity to the interdependence and uniqueness of the world environment.
- The major elements of this approach to generalist practice include:
 - An ecological-systems perspective.
 - A problem focus.

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- A strengths/needs orientation.
- A multilevel approach.
- An open selection of theories and interventions and.
- A problem-solving process. (Timberlake, Farber, Sabatino, 37)

Social Work Curriculum Course Guide

YEAR ONE (FRESHMAN)

SEMESTER I

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
Freshman English I	(ENG 101)	3
Introduction to Psychology I	(PSY 101)	3
Introduction to Sociology	(SOCI 101)	3
Introduction to Social Work	(SWK 101)	3
Penology & Social Deviance	(SOCI 103)	3
Christian Ethics I	(RELG 101)	<u>1</u>
		16

SEMESTER II

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
Freshman English II (Composition)	(ENG 102)	3
Introduction to Psychology II	(PSY 102)	3
Community Development	(SWK 102)	3
Marriage & Family	(SOCI 102)	3
Social/Cultural Anthropology	(ANTRHO 102)	3
Christian Ethics I	(RELG 101)	<u>1</u>
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YEAR TWO (SOPHOMORE)

SEMESTER I

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
English 201	(ENG.201)	3
Population Studies	(DEMO 201)	3
Introduction to Philosophy	(PHIL 201)	3
Social Policy	(SWK 203)	3
Human Behavior I	(SWK 201)	<u>3</u>
		15

(Semester II) Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
English 202	(ENG. 202)	3
Peace, Trauma & Conflict Anal.	(SOCI 202)	3
Human Behavior II	(SWK 202)	3
Dimensions of Human Diversity	(SWK 204)	3
Interpersonal Com. Skills	(SWK 205)	3
Introduction to Computer Science	(COMP 201)	<u>2</u>
		17

YEAR THREE (JUNIOR)

SEMESTER I

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
Advance Eng. Writing Workshop	(ENG 301)	3
Research Methods I	(SWK 301)	4
Generalist Social Work Practice Methods I:		
Working with Ind. and Families	(SWK 303)	4
Spirituality & Praxis	(SWK 304)	3
Populations-at-Risk:		
Children and Post Conflict Trauma	(SWK 305)	<u>3</u>
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SEMESTER II

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
Research Methods II	(SWK 302)	4
Generalist Social Work Practice Methods II:		
Groups and Organizations	(SWK 306)	3
Traditional Helping Approaches in Liberia	(SWK 308)	3
Generalist Social Work Practice Methods III:		
Working in Liberian Communities	(SWK 310)	3
Substance Abuse and Practice	(SWK 312)	<u>3</u>
		16

YEAR FOUR (SENIOR)

SEMESTER I

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
Basic Counseling	(SWK 402)	3
Field Seminar I	(SWK 403)	3
Populations at Risk II: HIV/AIDS	(SWK 407)	3
Professional Values and Ethics	(SWK 409)	3
Populations at Risk III:		
Women's Health and Development	(SWK 410)	3
Older People, Aging & Society	(SWK412)	<u>3</u>
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SEMESTER II

Course Title:	Code	Credit Hour
Field Practicum	(SWK 401)	7
Field Seminar II	(SWK 404)	4
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Summary of Total BSW Credits

YEAR	SEMESTER I	SEMESTER II	Total Credits
I.	16	16	32
II.	15	17	32
III.	17	16	33
IV.	18	11	29
Grand Total:	58	54	126

Grading System

Example:

Class participation 5%	A 90 - 100 %
Class attendance 5%	B 80 - 89%
Quiz 15%	C 70 - 79%
Test 20%	D 60 - 69
Assignment 15%	F below 60
Midterm/Final 40 %	
<u>Total points:</u> 100%	