

# 468: DOCTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

## In Workflow

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## Approval Path

1. Mon, 30 Jan 2023 19:17:00 GMT  
Mitch Powell (mpowell7): Rollback to Initiator
2. Mon, 30 Jan 2023 21:38:09 GMT  
Mitch Powell (mpowell7): Approved for Registrar
3. Tue, 31 Jan 2023 14:58:51 GMT  
Lorie Johnson (ljohnson15): Approved for ACHE SACS Substantive Notice
4. Tue, 31 Jan 2023 15:10:38 GMT  
John Hodges (jhodges): Approved for SW Chair
5. Thu, 09 Feb 2023 19:03:37 GMT  
Ryan Zayac (rzayac): Approved for AS Executive Assistant
6. Tue, 14 Feb 2023 23:11:08 GMT  
Amy Crews (aecrets): Approved for AS Curriculum Committee Chair
7. Wed, 15 Feb 2023 14:14:55 GMT  
Ryan Zayac (rzayac): Approved for AS Dean
8. Mon, 20 Feb 2023 22:34:29 GMT  
Renee Vandiver (rpvandiver): Approved for COAD

## New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: Mon, 30 Jan 2023 19:28:05 GMT

## Viewing: 468 : Doctor of Social Work

Last edit: Mon, 20 Feb 2023 22:34:18 GMT

Changes proposed by: arthompson

### Program Title

Doctor of Social Work

### Department Name

Social Work

### College Name

College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering

### Academic Level

Graduate

### Program Type

Major

**Degree Type**

DSW

**CIP Code**

440701 - Social Work.

**The proposed change(s) will be effective for the following catalog edition:**

2024-2025

**Is this program only available online?**

Yes

**Is this program offered on campus and online?**

No

**Brief Description and Rationale for Proposal:**

The University of North Alabama's online Doctor of Social Work (DSW) program prepares students for the following: advanced trauma-informed social work practice and supervision, anti-oppressive social work education and training, and leadership in workforce development. The program prepares social work leaders to advocate for human rights and social/economic justice in diverse communities while incorporating the impact of global perspectives. The DSW program models a commitment to discovery and implementation of new knowledge, evidence-based research, and ethical use of technology to enhance critical thinking to promote human and community well-being while advancing community workforce development.

**Include relevant information concerning UNA's mission and goals (strategic plan)**

The mission of the University of North Alabama's Doctor of Social Work (DSW) program is to prepare students for advanced trauma-informed clinical practice and supervision with an integrative emphasis of anti-oppressive education, training, and leadership in workforce development. The program prepares social work leaders to advocate for human rights and social/economic justice in diverse communities while incorporating the impact of global perspectives. The DSW program models a commitment to discovery and implementation of new knowledge, evidence-based research, and ethical use of technology to enhance critical thinking to promote human and community well-being while advancing community workforce development. The DSW program will prepare the doctoral practitioner to utilize advanced theoretical frameworks in the critical application of innovative skills in the engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation of diverse clients and constituencies. The DSW curriculum is grounded in evidence-based research for implementation by advanced practitioners with integration of the CSWE educational competencies. Students will be equipped to be leaders in the fields of advanced clinical social work practice.

**Include relevant information concerning UNA's student learning opportunities**

Graduates of this program will:

- A. Utilize advanced theoretical frameworks in the application of innovative skills in the engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation of diverse clients and constituencies.
- B. Demonstrate advanced social work practice skills in supervision at the agency and organizational level.
- C. Develop quantitative and qualitative research skills to address critical issues faced by vulnerable and underserved communities.
- D. Understand and implement the principles of evidence-based practice in selecting social work interventions
- E. Apply principles of social work policy practice to advanced clinical practice or organizational leadership
- F. Be prepared for faculty careers in academia

**Include relevant information concerning UNA's impact on existing programs**

N/A

**Include relevant information concerning UNA's financial implications at the department and college level. Will this involve new equipment, facilities, new faculty, etc?**

A minimum of three new faculty will be required.

**List the departments or programs on campus consulted on the issues of duplication and overlap.**

N/A

**Attach ACHE NISP form**

2022 12 08 UNA DSW NISP.docx

**Board of Trustees Resolution**

Resolution -- DSW in Social Work.docx

**Other Relevant Documentation**

Resolution -- DSW Executive Summary.docx

### **Admission to Program Requirements (if different from University Standard)**

Doctoral students will be admitted through a cohort model in Fall semester of each academic year. The following is a list of admissions criteria for entrance into the UNA's DSW program:

1. Minimum of 3 years post MSW social work practice experience
2. MSW transcript from CSWE-accredited program
3. MSW GPA of 3.0 or higher
4. Resume or CV
5. Personal Narrative Essay

### **Degree Requirements**

#### **DSW COURSEWORK**

The first stage of the DSW program is the major coursework. The purpose of this coursework is to prepare doctoral students in the practice areas of advanced clinical social work intervention with an integration of executive organizational leadership in workforce development as well as social work education and training. The coursework stage of the DSW program consists of 33 credit hours (out of 42 total credit hours) over 3 semesters full-time (out of 5 total program semesters). Coursework is facilitated online in 8-week, asynchronous sessions. Students must complete all DSW coursework before scheduling the oral exam. Doctoral students are required to take one 3-credit elective in an area of interest during their time in the program before completing the Oral Exam.

#### **DSW RESIDENCY**

The purpose of the DSW Residency is to prepare and support the doctoral student in the following areas:

- acculturation to doctoral studies;
- facilitation of cohort cohesive and connection;
- intensive connection to doctoral faculty; and
- mentorship facilitation through intensive and purposeful time with Mentor of Record to establish and evaluate mentorship plans.

DSW residency will take place in person with virtual facilitation available (if necessary). There will be two three-day DSW residency retreats. They will take place in the following format:

- Retreat 1: Year 1, Fall Session 1, Intro. Seminar.
- Retreat 2: Year 2, Fall Session 2, Capstone Seminar.

In the *first DSW residency retreat*, students will receive an intensive orientation to the doctoral program. They will also connect with their Mentor of Record to establish their mentorship plans. There will also be opportunities for students to connect with their cohort peers for educational and networking-based gathering. In the *second DSW residency retreat*, students will receive an intensive orientation to the capstone process. They will also connect with their Mentor of Record to evaluate their mentorship plans. There will also be opportunities for students to connect with their cohort peers for additional networking-based opportunities.

#### **DSW ORAL EXAM**

The second stage of the DSW program is the oral exam. The purpose of the DSW oral exam is to demonstrate advanced knowledge of required coursework as well as advanced social work theories and concepts related to advanced clinical social work practice. *The oral exam serves as entrance into the doctoral candidacy phase of the program and initiation of the DSW capstone process.* The oral exam will be administered through a live virtual presentation and facilitated by the DSW Program Director. The oral exam will then be evaluated by the 4-member doctoral committee, consisting of three approved social work faculty members (the Capstone instructor, DSW Program Director, and the DSW Faculty mentor of record) and one member from outside the department or external to the university.

The Oral Exam will assess for mastery of course concepts and CSWE educational competencies. Students will be expected to prepare for the oral exam defense through a comprehensive review of their completed major assignments across the academic curriculum. Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- discuss mastery of course-related theory integration, assessment, evaluation, etc.;
- how these assignments provide a foundation for future advanced trauma informed social work practice;
- how the course work has prepared them for professional readiness in advanced clinical social work practice at the doctoral level;
- capstone topic of interest; and
- their professional career goals.

#### **DSW CAPSTONE PROCESS**

The third stage of the DSW program is the capstone process. The purpose of the capstone process is to develop knowledge and expertise in the student's field of practice that integrates mastery of program knowledge, skills, values, and cognitive/affective processes. The capstone is designed to incorporate components of knowledge, theory, and skills ascertained in the coursework sequence of the DSW program.

#### **CAPSTONE STUDY PROPOSAL**

The capstone proposal consists of one of the following five practice areas: grant or policy proposal, research study, or program or curricular development. The DSW Capstone study proposal will consist of the following components:

1. **Capstone Seminar:** An approved project concept identification. This concept will be approved by the DSW faculty mentor of record.
2. **Capstone I/II:** A written proposal consisting of a literature review, relevant theory, and evidence-based research justifying their proposal concept along with methodological approach. (The complete written capstone, including evaluation, will be approximately 25-30 pages in length.)
3. **Capstone III:** Finally, an oral defense of the proposal to the doctoral committee.

The capstone will be evaluated by the 4-member doctoral committee. Upon successful completion of all required DSW program components, students will attain the DSW degree.

### Curriculum Requirements for the Doctorate of Social Work

Code	Title	Hours
SW 700	Course SW 700 Not Found (Intro. to Doctoral Studies Seminar)	3
SW 710	Course SW 710 Not Found (Intro to Adv. Clinical Practice)	3
SW 715	Course SW 715 Not Found (Adv. Trauma-Informed Assessment)	3
SW 720	Course SW 720 Not Found (Neuroscience & Trauma)	3
SW 730	Course SW 730 Not Found (Adv. Clinical Eval I – Quantitative Methods)	3
SW 731	Course SW 731 Not Found (Adv. Clinical Eval II – Qualitative Methods)	3
SW 740	Course SW 740 Not Found (Adv. Trauma-Informed Clinical Supervision)	3
SW 750	Course SW 750 Not Found (Adv. Clinical Elective)	3
SW 800	Course SW 800 Not Found (Pedagogy & Curriculum Development)	3
SW 810	Course SW 810 Not Found (Executive Leadership & Organizational Development)	3
SW 820	Course SW 820 Not Found (Capstone Seminar and Oral Exam)	3
SW 821	Course SW 821 Not Found (Capstone I)	3
SW 822	Course SW 822 Not Found (Capstone II)	3
SW 823	Course SW 823 Not Found (Capstone III - Oral Defense)	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>42</b>

#### Plan of Study

##### FALL YEAR 1

###### SESSION 1

- SW 700 - Intro. to Doctoral Studies Seminar
- SW 710 - Intro to Adv. Clinical Practice

###### SESSION 2

- SW 715 - Adv. Trauma-Informed Assessment
- SW 720 - Neuroscience & Trauma

##### SPRING YEAR 1

###### SESSION 1

- SW 730 - Adv. Clinical Eval I – Quantitative Methods
- SW 731 - Adv. Clinical Eval II – Qualitative Methods

###### SESSION 2

- SW 740 - Adv. Trauma-Informed Clinical Supervision
- SW 750 - Adv. Clinical Elective

##### SUMMER YEAR 1

- SW 750 - Adv. Clinical Elective (If not already taken)

##### FALL YEAR 2

###### SESSION 1

- SW 800 - Pedagogy & Curriculum Development
- SW 810 - Executive Leadership & Organizational Development

###### SESSION 2

- SW 820 - Capstone Seminar and Oral Exam
  - Doctoral Candidacy Attained via Oral Exam

##### SPRING YEAR 2

###### SESSION 1

- SW 821 - Capstone I

###### SESSION 2

- SW 822 - Capstone II

##### SUMMER YEAR 2 - FULL SESSION

- SW 823 - Capstone III - Oral Defense

DOCTORAL DEGREE ATTAINED via Oral Defense

#### Reviewer Comments

**Mitch Powell (mpowell7) (Mon, 30 Jan 2023 19:17:00 GMT):** Rollback: to add course numbers

**Lorie Johnson (ljohnson15) (Tue, 31 Jan 2023 14:57:21 GMT):** NISP submitted to ACHE 12/8/22. Proposal cannot be submitted until UNA has ACHE approval to add a fourth doctorate program. The most recent Guidelines for Instructional Role require institutions to receive approval from the Commission to expand their instructional role to a higher degree level before a fourth degree program can be reviewed. ACHE is undertaking a review and update of its Academic Program Review policies, and the instructional role is one of the areas under review. If all goes well, the revisions will be considered for the first time at the March ACHE meeting and then for the second and final time at the June ACHE meeting. ACHE would then be able to consider UNA's proposal at the September ACHE meeting. Deadline to submit for the September meeting is June 1.

**Lorie Johnson (ljohnson15) (Tue, 31 Jan 2023 14:58:48 GMT):** New program proposal will be submitted to SACSCOC. Please schedule appointment with the liaison to discuss timelines and submission requirements.

**Ryan Zayac (rzayac) (Wed, 15 Feb 2023 14:13:44 GMT):** Updated to include the residency component and 4 member doctoral committee.

**Renee Vandiver (rpvandiver) (Mon, 20 Feb 2023 22:34:18 GMT):** Approved by COAD on 2-20-23.

Key: 468