

Social Work

college to career major map



Career Development Center

| | 1ST YEAR | 2ND YEAR | 3RD YEAR | 4TH OR FINAL YEAR |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Academics | <p>Start taking LASC courses as well as foundational and core Social Work courses.</p> <p>Need a little help in your classes? Look into tutoring with the Academic Support Center.</p> | <p>Take a deeper dive into the discipline of Social Work and begin considering a minor such as Psychology or Gerontology.</p> <p>Review the criteria for admission into the School of Social Work. Work with your faculty and advisor to make sure you are on track.</p> | <p>In addition to working with your advisor to get your access code, schedule an appointment with them to ensure you're on track for graduation.</p> <p>Take inventory of your professional goals and decide if your future will need to include graduate school. If so, take the necessary exams and keep track of application timelines.</p> | <p>Complete your internship. Completing an internship is a required capstone experience to receive your B.S.W. degree from MSU Moorhead. During your internship, you'll apply the social work knowledge and skills you've gained to real practice in the field.</p> <p>Ensure you submit your application for graduation on time.</p> |
| On-Campus Experience | <p>Sign up to participate in the Social Work Learning Community.</p> <p>Join a major-specific student organization such as the Dragon Society of Social Work.</p> <p>Participate in Student Life Pathways to continue growing your skills/knowledge outside of the classroom. We recommend starting with the Community Life Pathway.</p> | <p>Find an on-campus or part-time job in the community. Visit DragonJobs powered by Handshake to see positions are open.</p> <p>Continue working on your Student Life Pathways. Try working your way through the Personal Wellness and the Equity and Inclusion paths.</p> | <p>Begin your leadership journey by applying for a student leadership position or run for an officer position in the Dragon Society of Social Work. Find available leadership positions on DragonJobs in early spring.</p> <p>We suggest focusing on the Professional Success and Contribution and Influence Student Life Pathways. These will help connect you to potential employers and develop skills for success post graduation.</p> | <p>Assess what experiences or skills are areas of growth for you and fill in gaps with volunteering, organizations, or part-time employment.</p> <p>Finish up your pathways and be sure to add your accomplishments to your LinkedIn and resume.</p> |
| Connect to the Community & World | <p>Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations such as Boys and Girls Club of the RRV, Youthworks, or Big Brothers Big Sisters.</p> | <p>Join LinkedIn to begin building your professional network and online presence. Think of your profile as a virtual resume and make sure to update it regularly to reflect new jobs, research, coursework, volunteering, involvement, and skills.</p> | <p>Consider participating in a study abroad experience through the social work program. Globalized education empowers you to learn about the world, develop values around a positive sense of self, appreciate cultural diversity, enhance a passion for social justice and human rights, and build a sustainable future.</p> | <p>Join professional organizations such as the National Association of Social Workers - Minnesota to gain access to research, continuing education opportunities, and job boards.</p> <p>Get involved in a community organization such as the Young Professionals Network to continue building your professional network.</p> |
| Understand Your Career | <p>Explore your interests, skills, and values and learn about the career readiness competencies by taking the FOCUS 2, an online assessment free for all MSUM students.</p> <p>Schedule an appointment with the Career Development Center to review your FOCUS 2 results and to begin building your resume.</p> | <p>Start researching potential career paths on O*Net or the Occupational Outlook Handbook. Here, you will be able to find valuable information such as typical tasks associated with the profession, skills, and knowledge needed, education and licensures needed, wages and employment trends, professional organizations, and related occupations. We suggest you search for careers such as Social Worker.</p> | <p>Attend professional development-related events on-campus, and connect with faculty to learn more about the field and gain insights on how to be successful in your job search.</p> | <p>Network relentlessly! Attend the spring Career Fairs to get connected to employers looking to hire soon-to-be grads. Check DragonCentral for more information.</p> <p>Schedule appointments with a Career Coach to go over your professional documents and to prepare for upcoming interviews. And remember, once a dragon always a dragon. You have access to these services for life.</p> |

Where can you go?

A degree in **Social Work** can take your career in many directions. Most students choose to enter the workforce right after graduation while others continue their education after a few years in the workforce. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for a career as a(n):

- Agency Director
- Case Worker
- Child Welfare Worker
- Clinical Social Worker
- Community Organization Director
- Eligibility Specialist
- Group Home Director
- Mental Health Worker
- Social Worker

What skills will you need?

To be successful in the world of **Social Work** you will need the following skills:

- Communication
- emotional
- interpersonal
- organizational
- problem-solving

Thankfully, through coursework, on-campus involvement, part-time employment, and internships, you will be prepared for life post-graduation.