Certificate in School-Based Social Work Practice

The Steve Hicks School of Social Work offers MSSW students the opportunity to graduate with a certificate in School-Based Social Work Practice. This certificate program prepares both Clinical and APP students to be school-based social work practitioners. School-based social workers are an integral link between school, home, and community in helping students achieve academic success. They work directly with school administrations as well as students and families, providing leadership in forming school discipline policies, mental health intervention, crisis management, and support services. As part of an interdisciplinary team to help students succeed, social workers also facilitate community involvement in the schools while advocating for student success.

Certificate Requirements
The School-Based Social Work Practice certificate program is composed of one anchor course, Social Work Practice in Schools, elective and selective coursework, 20 hours of professional development and an approved field placement. The student is responsible for documenting that all requirements for the certificate have been successfully completed.

Approved Field Placement
Certificate students will participate in one official field placement in an approved school setting and is a key component, providing students with hands-on learning and an opportunity to apply and integrate classroom-based knowledge. This placement may occur in the student’s first or final field experience. Securing a final field placement is a competitive process.

Additional Proposed Coursework for Certificate
Students in the Clinical concentration would select 3 of their 5 choices from the suggested course options on page 2. Students in the APP concentration would select 3 of their 4 choices from the suggested course options on page 2. Other courses may be approved as offered.

Professional Development
Students will engage in professional development opportunities either in the areas of conference/trainings participation and/or research project participation as appropriate or as required per instructor (a minimum of 20 hours in these endeavors during the course of their graduate program).

Process
Students will complete an application for the certificate program and return it to the Certificate Coordinator. The application can be found at https://socialwork.utexas.edu/dl/files/academic-programs/mssw/certificate-program-application.pdf

Certificate Coordinator
For more information, please contact Professor Mary Beer at mary.beer@austin.utexas.edu.
SOCIAL WORK COURSEWORK*

APP Selectives
Program Evaluation
Grant Development

Clinical Selectives
Treatment of Children & Adolescents
Motivational Interviewing
Solution Focused Brief Therapy
Crisis Intervention
Attachment
Theory and Methods of Family Intervention
Assessment and Treatment of Traumatized Populations
Neurobiology in Social Work Practice
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Electives
Parent Interventions
Methods of Play Intervention
Social Work Practice with Abused & Neglected Children & Their Families
Loss and Grief
Mindfulness and SW Practice
Juvenile Justice
Communication Skills in Interdisciplinary Settings
Restorative Justice
Social Construction of Disability
Spanish for Social Workers
Making Systems Work for People with Disabilities

POSSIBLE OUT-OF-DEPARTMENT OR CROSS-LISTED COURSEWORK OPTIONS*

LBJ School of Public Affairs
Leadership as a Catalyst for Community Change
Upward Mobility, Inequality & Public Policy
Poverty and Education Policy (ED cross-listed)
Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights
Principles and Practices of Effective Leadership

Educational Administration
Race/Leadership/School to Prison Pipeline
Class, Gender, & Race in Schools

Educational Psychology
Crisis Intervention in Schools
Social/Emotional Assessment of Children & Adolescents
Family Systems Interventions with Children & Adolescents
Fundamentals of Behavioral Theory & Intervention
Research Design & Methods for Psychology & Education

Psychology
Advanced Developmental Science of Adolescence

*These are not exhaustive lists. Additional courses may be presented to the Certificate Coordinator for approval. Additionally, not all courses may be offered in all semesters and seats are not guaranteed.