Major Transfer Guide: Social Work

What is Social Work?

Social work prepares graduates to work effectively with individuals, families, small groups, communities, and organizations. Social work is a challenging and fulfilling profession that attracts those with a spark of idealism, a belief in social justice and a love of working with people. The roots of the social work profession lie in turn of the century efforts to meet the needs of people in poverty, neglected children, and exploited workers. If you've read about Jane Addams, founder of Hull House; Frances Perkins, first Secretary of Labor; Harry Hopkins, force behind the Social Security Act; or Whitney Young, civil rights activist, you've read about social workers. Today social work is a dynamic, growing profession grounded in the social sciences and liberal arts as well as its own knowledge and research base. Social workers are intricately involved in the community, knowing the people, the services and how things get done. Yet, at the same time, social workers are keenly aware of the pain of those not in the mainstream, and are sensitive to the discrepancy between the reality they see and the dream of an ideal society. Social workers have a commitment to service. While there are many considerations that enter into any career decision, the decision to go into social work is usually based upon the desire to contribute to the greater good of all humankind. 

This information from Pacific Lutheran University's website

Career Opportunities

- Case Manager
- Academic Advisor
- Grant Writer
- Youth Programs Manager
- Policy Analyst
- Social Worker
- Vocational Counselor
- Research Analyst

Which Degree from Bellevue College will help me to major in Social Work?

- The Associate in Arts & Sciences DTA transfer degree

What Are Some Common Prerequisites?

Every university will require slightly different prerequisites. It is highly recommended that you speak with a representative at the target university in conjunction with an academic advisor here at BC to ensure that you take the proper courses. Double-checking requirements can be as easy as going to the university department website. Below is a general guide to the courses recommended for students interested in a Social Work major (this is not an official list):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written Communication†</th>
<th>Mathematics†</th>
<th>Major Specific†</th>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL&amp; 101</td>
<td>MATH&amp; 107 OR higher</td>
<td>ECON 100</td>
<td>ANTH 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL&amp; 201 OR 271</td>
<td>We recommend MATH 130 with completion of intermediate algebra proficiency (Math 099 or COMPASS test placement into Math 138 or Math 141)</td>
<td>PSYC&amp; 100</td>
<td>PSYC&amp; 200</td>
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<td></td>
<td>We recommend MATH 130 with completion of intermediate algebra proficiency (Math 099 or COMPASS test placement into Math 138 or Math 141)</td>
<td>SOC&amp; 101</td>
<td>POLS&amp; 202</td>
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<td></td>
<td>We recommend MATH 130 with completion of intermediate algebra proficiency (Math 099 or COMPASS test placement into Math 138 or Math 141)</td>
<td>BIOL 108</td>
<td>3 quarters of one World Language*</td>
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</tbody>
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*Or 3 years of one World Language in high school

Course Planning Notes

Use the space below to write down a course sequence for this school year. Remember to maintain balance each quarter (i.e. try not to take all sciences or all writing-based classes in a single quarter). Also, keep in mind that 12 credit hours or more is considered full time; make sure to balance class load with your personal and/or work life. This is not an official educational plan - you should see an academic advisor if you have any questions about course selection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMER</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>WINTER</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COURSE</td>
<td>CREDITS</td>
<td>COURSE</td>
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TOTAL QTR. CREDITS TOTAL QTR. CREDITS TOTAL QTR. CREDITS TOTAL QTR. CREDITS
Beyond BC with a Social Work Degree!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Universities with Social Work Degrees</th>
<th>Universities with Degrees Related to Social Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Washington University - Cheney and Vancouver</td>
<td>The Evergreen State College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Lutheran University</td>
<td>University of Washington - Bothell: &quot;Society, Ethics and Human Behavior&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle University</td>
<td>Washington State University-Vancouver and Online: &quot;Human Development&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Washington-Seattle</td>
<td>University of Washington - Bothell: &quot;Community Psychology&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walla Walla University</td>
<td>Western Washington University - Bellingham, Everett, and Online: &quot;Human Services&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Washington - Tacoma: &quot;Social Welfare&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here's the Scoop! Considerations for this Major:

- Programs will differ from university to university; for example, some will offer "Social Welfare" degrees instead of "Social Work."
- Attend the information sessions offered by the universities.
- Know the school's admission requirements, expectations, deadlines, and areas of specialization.
- Most universities have foreign language requirements for admission and graduation.
- Apply to more than one university and have more than one back-up plan.
- Volunteer and service learning are important elements to the application process. Successful applicants typically need to have this experience in order to meet minimum admission requirements.
- Other recommended courses in: Anthropology, Communications Studies, Criminal Justice, Cultural and Ethnic Studies, Economics, Psychology and Sociology

Who To Contact for more Information:

Bellevue College has a variety of friendly faces and resources to help you plan and register for classes. We have designed specific pathways for help depending on where you are in your journey through college:

- First Time to College Students: Register for a Bellevue College Advising & Registration Kick Off (B.A.R.K.) session
- Returning to College/Transfer-In/Current Students: Meet with an Academic Advisor

Need help picking classes?  Need more career information?

Social Work advising is part of the Social Science division in D110.  To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, please call one of the following numbers.

- For first time to college students: 425-564-2212
- For returning/transfer-in/current students: 425-564-2331

Schedule an appointment with a Career Services Specialist by calling 425-564-2279.

Check your degree progress! Log into degree audit at: http://bellevuecollege.edu/degreeaudit/

This is an unofficial guide only, designed to prepare students for entry into Washington State Social Work programs. It is the student's responsibility to research and communicate with all community college and university programs to which he/she intends to apply to establish prerequisites and admission requirements, as they vary and are subject to change without notice.

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September, 2015