

# SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY

School of Graduate Studies

MASTER OF

## **Social Work**

WITH MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY COHORT



*“Catch the trade winds in your sails.  
Explore. Dream. Discover.”*

*~ Mark Twain*



*"I decided to pursue my MSW because it will make me more competitive among other job applicants and potentially lead to greater leadership opportunities within the field."*

SELENE SCAVITTO, SHIP MSW STUDENT

Shippensburg University is developing a new cohort of its accredited Master of Social Work (MSW) program **especially for Schuylkill County.**

This part-time, year-round program is designed for students who want to either further their education in social work or join the social work profession. It is jointly offered with Millersville University, drawing on faculty expertise from both schools.

All required classes will be offered in the evening at the Schuylkill Community Education Council, 220 Parkway Ave., Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

The MSW Schuylkill cohort program will begin in the Spring Term (January) 2013, pending enrollment of sufficient numbers of students. Applications will be accepted beginning July 1.



## Why choose Social Work?

Are you looking for flexibility from your advanced degree? Few occupations can match Social

Work, which offers a wide-range of opportunities and settings. Social workers can be found in public agencies, private businesses, hospitals, clinics, schools, nursing homes, private practices, police departments, courts, and numerous other exciting work settings. Social workers assist individuals, families, and communities. They can be managers, supervisors, and administrators. They work at all levels of government. They are also educators. Social workers are therapists and researchers. And many are also elected political leaders and legislators.

## Job Outlook

According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for social workers is expected to grow faster than the average of all occupations through 2018 and job prospects will be especially advantageous for individuals working in rural areas. Social work is a profession for individuals who want to help people improve their lives!

[ship.edu/msw/cohort](http://ship.edu/msw/cohort)

## Why choose a MSW degree at Shippensburg University?

A bachelor's degree in Social Work will allow you to secure an entry-level position in the Social Work field. A MSW degree is required to perform most clinical (i.e. therapy) and macro (i.e. Administrator) work. Many other social work programs require an individual choose a concentration, which normally means choosing between the clinical or macro track. Shippensburg University's master's in Social Work is a CSWE accredited Advanced Generalist program. An Advanced Generalist MSW permits graduates to work in a variety of human service programs and agencies in an advanced clinical and/or administrative capacity. The flexibility of the social work degree provides graduates with many options as they pursue their careers in the helping fields. Also, our program seeks to be accommodating to non-traditional students and individuals working full-time; *all of our required MSW classes are offered in the evening!*

## Accreditation

The MU-SU MSW program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

## Admission Guidelines

### GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.8 on a 4.0 scale from all regionally accredited undergraduate institution that they have attended. In exceptional cases, applicants who lack the required grade point average may be admitted on a provisional basis. Applicants admitted provisionally must earn a 3.0 grade point average by the end of the first 12 credits.



## REQUIRED LIBERAL ARTS FOUNDATION COURSES

Students must demonstrate that they have successfully completed

coursework with substantial content in each of the following areas: Human Biology, Economics, Government/Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Statistics. Applicants can be admitted with up to two course deficiencies. These course deficiencies must be completed by the end of the foundation year or within the first 12 credits of Advanced Standing.

## ADVANCED STANDING PROGRAM

### ADVANCED STANDING PROGRAM WILL ONLY BE OFFERED IN THIS COHORT IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT STUDENT REGISTRATION.

Students will be considered for the Advanced Standing program if 1) they have earned a baccalaureate degree in the last eight years from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited social work program with an overall GPA of 3.0 and a major GPA of 3.25 or higher on a 4.0 scale and 2) they submit the appropriate recommendation form from their BSW program director indicating their readiness for graduate education in social work. If a student has attended more than one undergraduate institution, all undergraduate GPAs will be used in the calculation of the overall GPA.

## LIFE EXPERIENCE

This program does not grant academic credit for life or work experience.

## REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION MATERIALS

Applicants must evidence a combination of personal qualities and values that are considered essential for the professional practice of social work. The following documents are required to serve as evidence for this purpose:

- Three professional references with a minimum of one from a faculty member and one from a social service agency employer/supervisor. The third may be from either a faculty member or an employer/supervisor. NO personal or colleague references will be accepted.
- A 4-5 page personal statement describing: events and experiences in your life that led you to apply for a master's degree in social work as a profession; how the MSW will further your career goals; and your experiences with issues of diversity in practice and/or life.
- A comprehensive résumé of work and related volunteer experience.

The program may request a personal interview or additional information about an applicant when necessary to make a fully informed admissions decision.

## CRIMINAL RECORD

Persons who have criminal records are not eligible to work in many human service fields. Applicants with criminal records should contact the MSW program director for additional information.

## Admission Procedures

Applications will begin to be accepted July 1. Only complete applications will be reviewed. Sufficient number of paid confirmations from admitted applicants must be received by October 31 in order for the cohort to begin in the spring of 2013.

## EXAMINATIONS

Only applicants whose GPA falls below the minimum standard of 2.8 need to take either the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the General Graduate Record Exam (GRE) as part of the admission process. Scores should not be more than five years old at the time of application. To find the location of MAT or GRE testing, contact the Graduate Studies office at MU or SU.

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students may transfer a total of nine (9) credit hours. All nine may be from another MSW program, or up to six (6) credits may be from a related field. Graduate credit earned more than five years prior to the date you begin your graduate program does not qualify for transfer. Students may only transfer credits from other accredited schools provided they are in good standing in those schools. Courses must be listed on an official transcript with a B or higher. Courses transferring must be approved by the program. Condensed one-week graduate courses do not qualify for transfer.



## Degree Requirements

Students enrolling in the Regular Program must complete 60 credits of graduate study including:

15 credit hours of field practicum, 6 credit hours of electives, and 39 credit hours of required coursework. BSW graduates in the Regular Program may receive exemption for some coursework, as per admission guidelines. There are two field practicum courses requiring 400 hours in the second year and 500 hours in the fourth year.

Students enrolled in the Advanced Standing Program must complete 36 credit hours of graduate study including: 9 credit hours of field practicum, 9 credit hours of electives, and 18 credit hours of required coursework including a summer “bridge” course. This includes a total of 500 hours of field practicum in the fall and spring semesters.

Due to the cohort nature of this program, all courses must be taken in sequence.

All required courses will be offered in a face to face classroom format at the Schuylkill Community Education Center in Schuylkill Haven. Elective courses will be offered via videoconference or during weekend sessions at the Dixon Center of PASSHE in Harrisburg.

## Courses

### **FOUNDATION COURSES - ALL REGULAR ADMIT STUDENTS - 30 CREDITS**

SWK/SOWK501: Principles & Philosophies of Social Work

SWK/SOWK505: Social Work Practice with Diverse Populations

SWK/SOWK510: Human Behavior in the Social Environment I

SWK/SOWK511: Human Behavior in the Social Environment II

SWK/SOWK515: Social Welfare Policy

SWK/SOWK520: Micro/Mezzo Social Work Practice

SWK/SOWK521: Macro Social Work Practice

SWK/SOWK525: Research Methods

SWK/SOWK530: Field Practicum I

SWK/SOWK531: Field Practicum II

### **ADVANCED STANDING (BRIDGE COURSE) – 3 CREDITS**

SWK/SOWK601: Integrative Seminar

### **ADVANCED COURSES – ALL STUDENTS INCLUDING ADVANCED STANDING – 24 CREDITS**

SWK/SOWK610: Advanced Human Behavior in the Social Environment

SWK/SOWK615: Advanced Social Welfare Policy

SWK/SOWK625: Advanced Research Methods

SWK/SOWK620: Advanced Micro/Mezzo Social Work Practice

SWK/SOWK621: Advanced Macro Social Practice

SWK/SOWK630: Advanced Field Practicum I

SWK/SOWK631: Advanced Field Practicum II

### **ELECTIVES - 6-9 CREDITS REQUIRED**

SWK/SOWK602: Behavioral Health

SWK/SOWK603: Gender Issues

SWK/SOWK604: Health Care

SWK/SOWK605: Child Welfare

SWK/SOWK606: School Social Work

SWK/SOWK607: Emergency Mental Health and Trauma

SWK/SOWK608: Social Work

Administration and Supervision

SWK/SOWK609: Introduction to Art

Therapy

SWK/SOWK612: Social Work and the Law

## MU-SU MSW Faculty

Sam Benbow, M.S., Shippensburg University of PA; Ed.D., Indiana University of PA

Joyous Bethel, MSW, University of Oklahoma; Ph.D., Barry University, FL

Dara Bourassa, MSW, University of Pittsburgh; Ph.D., University of Maryland

Jennifer Clements, MSW & Ph.D., University of Maryland

Andrew Dunlap, MSW, University of Kansas; Ph.D., Smith College, MA

Elizabeth Fisher, MSW & Ph.D., University of Maryland

Leonora Foels, MSW, Simmons College; Ph.D. Barry University, FL

Marita Flagler, MSW & Ph.D., Colorado State University

Jennifer Frank, MSW, Millersville University; Ph.D. candidate, Bryn Mawr College, PA

Heather Girvin, MSS & Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College, PA

Kathryn A. Gregoire, MSSW, University of Tennessee; Ph.D., University of Maryland

Deborah F. Jacobs, MSW, University of Michigan; Ph.D., Brandeis University, MA

David Johnson, MSW University of Southern Mississippi; Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin

Dorlisa Minnick, MSW, SUNY-Stonybrook; Ph.D., Catholic University, Washington D.C.



Michael Lyman, MSW & Ph.D., University of Utah

Karen Rice, MSW, Temple University, PA;  
Ph.D., University of Maryland

Katherine Walsh, MSW & Ph.D., University of Maryland/

## About Millersville University

Innovation in education is the philosophy of Millersville. Established in 1855 as the first normal school in Pennsylvania, the University has provided graduate education for the Commonwealth since the mid-20th century, and formally began offering master's degree programs in 1959.

Today, more than 1,300 graduate students are enrolled in master's degree, supervisory certification, post-baccalaureate and research fellowship programs within three schools: Education, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Science & Mathematics.

Located on 250 acres in the heart of Lancaster County, Millersville University offers excellent undergraduate and graduate academic programs led by faculty dedicated to learning, 95 percent of whom have earned the highest academic degree in their fields. Almost 8,000 students attend Millersville, including those enrolled in the Corporate University, and adult and continuing education programs. The University maintains strong relationships with the community and partners with regional employers to meet the needs of the local economy.

## About Shippensburg University

Shippensburg University has a long and rich tradition of meeting the educational, cultural, social, and economic needs of southcentral Pennsylvania and beyond. With "Learn and Serve" as its guide, the university has provided graduate education for the Commonwealth since the 1950s. Today, 1,100+ graduate students are enrolled in master's degree, supervisory certification, and post-baccalaureate programs within three colleges: Arts and Sciences, Business, and Education and Human Services.

Located on 200 acres in Cumberland County, Shippensburg University offers excellent, widely respected, and accredited undergraduate and graduate programs taught by faculty dedicated to student success. More than 8,000 students attend Shippensburg including those enrolled in professional, continuing, and distance education programs.

Shippensburg's programs are accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, AACSB International, ABET Inc., American Chemical Society, Council on Social Work Education, Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs, International Association of Counseling Services, Council for Exceptional Children and by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teachers.

## OUR MSW

- Is a part-time, year-round program designed for the working professional with all required courses offered evenings in Schuylkill Haven.
- Blends traditional classroom based education with flexible online activities.
- Is CSWE accredited.
- Broadens your job options as an Advanced Generalist MSW degree.
- Offers a more affordable graduate education.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

There are several means to help you defray the cost of attending a graduate program at Shippensburg University. If you are scheduled to take at least six credit hours per semester you are eligible to apply for a Federal Direct Stafford Student Loan at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Please contact the Graduate Office at:

**717-477-1148**  
**GradSchool@ship.edu**  
**ship.edu/graduate/assistantship**

## For More Information

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Shippensburg University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Direct requests for disability accommodations and other inquiries to the Office of Disability Services, Horton Hall 120, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299, 717-477-1329, [ods@ship.edu](mailto:ods@ship.edu).

**Millersville University**  
SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

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