

PROGRAM DESIGN

Social Work Program Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Department of Social Work at UW-River Falls is to prepare undergraduate students for ethical and competent generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. As graduates, students are expected to be enlightened as citizens, appreciative of diversity, committed to human rights, social justice, and prepared to be life-long-learners who will contribute to the knowledge base of their profession. The Department commits itself to being an active, contributing part of the university community, the region within which the campus is located, and the world.

Social Work Program Goals and Objectives/Competencies

- Goal 1.** To graduate students prepared for and committed to lifelong learning based on the integration of the skills of critical thinking, a foundation of liberal arts education and the knowledge base of generalist social work education. Graduates will:
- Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments
 - Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment
 - Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research
 - Respond to contexts that shape practice
- Goal 2.** To graduate students who are prepared for entry level generalist practice using social work professional foundation knowledge, values, ethics and skills with client systems of various sizes and in different practice settings.
- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
 - Identify as a professional social worker and conducts self accordingly
 - Apply Social Work Ethical Principles to guide professional practice
 - Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research
 - Respond to contexts that shape practice
 - Engage, Assess, intervene and evaluate with individuals, families, groups organizations and communities.
- Goal 3.** To graduate students who are committed to and prepared to be leaders in seeking social justice for all people, particularly those experiencing poverty, discrimination and/or oppression.
- Engage diversity and difference in practice
 - Advance Human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice
 - Engage in policy practice
- Goal 4.** The Social Work Program will be involved in outreach activities that enrich both the quality of the Program and the well-being in the region around the University.
- Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research
 - Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services
 - Respond to contexts that shape practice

- Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups organizations and communities.

* Objective/Competencies are based upon the Goals of the program, and derived from the CSWE EPAS.