

Social Work at PLU



Greetings!

Thank you all for signing up to get more information and updates about Social Work at PLU! We are so excited to be a resource for you all as you take steps towards your major or minor. In this email is some general information about social work and the social work program that should help support you in your decision making, class selection, and overall choices about your future vocation.

What is Social Work?

Social work uniquely prepares graduates to work effectively with individuals, families, small groups, communities, and organizations. 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, the 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 values such as social justice, community, and service. Social Work is a career in which needs are analyzed and services are provided on micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

WHAT CAN BACHELOR LEVEL SOCIAL WORKERS DO?

- Provide life necessity services for those in need
- Interview and write social histories
- Make psychosocial assessments
- Plan for community development and write grants
- Work with youth and adults in groups
- Provide case management services
- ADvocate for the disenfranchised

WHERE ARE SOCIAL WORKERS EMPLOYED?

- Hospitals
- Mental Health Agencies
- Nursing Care Centers
- Adoptions
- Child Protection Corrections
- Domestic Violence Shelters
- Juvenile Justice
- Temporary Assistance
- Head Start
- Community Action
- Faith-based Agencies
- Volunteer Health Agencies
- Government Agencies
- schools

Social Work Requirements

We have included a table that depicts all the requirements for social work majors. This may seem daunting, but do not worry! It can be a bit overwhelming when looking at all of the classes at once, but when placed into your semester plans it is achievable. These classes are designed to give you all the tools and information you will need in your future social work careers or for your continuation in education such as MSW or Ph.D. degrees.

SOCIAL WORK REQUIREMENTS (MAJORS)

Psychology 101	1st year A J-Term course is needed to meet the FYEP requirement	Sociology 101
Anthropology 102	2nd year No Required J-term	Biology 111
HBSE (SOCW 245) Social Policy I (SOCW 250) Research Methods (SOCW 232) ‡ (One (4 cr.) Sociology or Social Work elective)*	3rd year No Required J-term	Social Work Practice I (SOCW 360) Social Policy II (SOCW 350) Statistics (STAT 233)
Social Work Practice II (SOCW 460) Field Experience I (SOCW 475) Field Seminar I (SOCW 485) Capstone Proposal (SOCW 498) (1 cr.)	4th year No Required J-term	Social Work Practice III (SOCW 465) Field Experience II (SOCW 476) Field Seminar II (SOCW 486) Capstone Seminar (SOCW 499) (3 cr.)

- **SOCIAL WORK REQUIREMENTS (MINOR)** is 18 credits in any social work designated class
- For more information about courses and the two-year course cycle check out that link! Or go to the the "my academic pathway" link on PLU's social work webpage.

How to Apply

How to apply to the social work program:

- Applications are accepted for the Fall Semester only. The Admissions Committee makes final decisions based on the strength of the overall application materials. The application deadline is February 28th—although applicants are accepted on a sliding basis until the program is filled.

To be considered for the major in Social Work applicants must:

- Be admitted to the University. Transfer students can obtain an application to the University by contacting the Admissions Office. (253-535-7151)
 - Submit a current copy (official or unofficial) of all transcripts of your undergraduate work.
 - Have a minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA.
 - Have completed at least 40 college-level semester hours by the time an application is submitted.
 - Have completed for credit or be currently enrolled in the following courses or their equivalent: Writing 101, Psychology 101
 - Introduction to Psychology, Sociology 101 Introduction to Sociology,
 - Cultural Anthropology*, and Human Biology** [only a C or better will be accepted in these classes.] In addition, applicants must fulfill Pacific Lutheran University's Math Entrance Requirement.
 - Complete and submit all application materials.
- (*May be completed during the first term in the Social Work Program.)
(**Taken before graduation. This course is offered once every two years in the spring semester in odd-numbered years (2021, 2023, etc.)

Phi Alpha

What is it?

Phi Alpha is the Social Work Honors Society club that is connected to the national Phi Alpha Society Organization. Students may be accepted into the Phi Alpha Honor Society in Social Work. To be eligible, students must maintain a 3.25 GPA in major courses and 3.0 overall. Students are inducted into the Honor Society in the Spring.

What do we do?

Phi Alpha at PLU puts on educational information sessions and fundraising events throughout the year. There will be more information on this in future emails, or on our Instagram platform (@plusocw).

The elected officers are:

President: Koa Beck

Vice President: Lena Flanagan

Secretary: Ariana Schieber

Vice President of Social Media: Kelsey Turner

Faculty: Dr. David Simpson



Thank you for your time and interest! If you have any questions please reach out, we are happy to help.

More Information:

www.plu.edu/social-work/ socw@plu.edu

Dr. David Simpson's email: simpsoda@plu.edu

Instagram: [@plusocw](https://www.instagram.com/plusocw)

Brought to you by the Phi Alpha Officers.