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## Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, March 30, 2018 - Minor in Social Work

Utah State University

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**Utah System of Higher Education  
New Academic Program Proposal  
Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template**

**Institution Submitting Request:** Utah State University  
**Proposed or Current Program Title:** Social Work Minor  
**Sponsoring School, College, or Division:** College of Humanities & Social Sciences  
**Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s):** Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology and History  
**Classification of Instructional Program Code<sup>1</sup> :** 44.0701  
**Min/Max Credit Hours Required of Full Program:** 18 / 18  
**Proposed Beginning Term<sup>2</sup>:** Fall 2018  
**Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Proficiency	<input type="checkbox"/> Entry-level CTE CP	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-level CP
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Completion		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor		
<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Certificate		
<input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Endorsement Program		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW Emphasis for Regent-Approved Program		
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of Service Area Delivery Program		

**Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:**

I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Please type your first and last name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

<sup>1</sup> For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

<sup>2</sup> "Proposed Beginning Term" refers to first term after Regent approval that students may declare this program.

**Utah System of Higher Education  
Program Description - Abbreviated Template**

**Section I: The Request**

Utah State University requests approval to offer the following Minor: Social Work Minor effective Fall 2018. This program was approved by the institutional Board of Trustees on .

**Section II: Program Proposal/Needs Assessment**

**Program Description/Rationale**

*Present a brief program description. Describe the institutional procedures used to arrive at a decision to offer the program. Briefly indicate why such a program should be initiated. State how the institution and the USHE benefit by offering the proposed program. Provide evidence of student interest and demand that supports potential program enrollment.*

The Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology (SSWA) proposes to create a minor in Social Work to be offered on the Utah State University Campus in Logan and its Regional campuses and centers throughout the state, including the USU Eastern campuses in Price and Blanding. This minor will consist of a mix of 18 credits of essential social work classes including one elective from an array of existing electives. These classes will provide basic knowledge of social work and will allow non social work majors to qualify for the Social Service Worker (SSW) state licensing exam and will also complement other majors/minors such as Criminal Justice, Family, Consumer and Human Development, Psychology, and Kinesiology and Health Science.

**Labor Market Demand**

*Provide local, state, and/or national labor market data that speak to the need for this program. Occupational demand, wage, and number of annual openings information may be found at sources such as Utah DWS Occupation Information Data Viewer ([jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do](http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do)) and the Occupation Outlook Handbook ([www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)).*

A Social Work minor is needed to give non-social work majors, such as those graduating in psychology, family, consumer and human development (FCHD), sociology, and criminal justice, the ability to obtain social work licensure (SSW). Social work licensure is required for employment with Utah's Department of Child and Family Services and other agencies that bill Medicaid and Medicare, and is an asset in other related fields, e.g. mental health, criminal justice, substance abuse treatment, long-term care. The minor will also provide students in these other majors a very basic understanding of social work concepts that will enhance their employment prospects.

National and regional studies indicate strong growth in demand for social workers. Job growth is expected to be fueled by several factors including retirement, voluntary turnover, and increasing recognition of the value social workers add to organizations. A relatively large percentage of the professional social work workforce is now reaching retirement age—a study conducted by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW, 2005, Assuring the sufficiency of a frontline workforce: A national study of licensed social workers. Washington, D.C.: National Association of Social Workers, Center for Workforce Studies) places this number at 30%. The need for social workers in Utah reflects these national projections. Community and Social Services positions are listed on the Utah Department of Workforce Services' list of occupations with the largest number of openings (<https://jobs.utah.gov/wi/data/occupation/jobdemand.html>) and the number of openings is expected to grow by 3% over the short and long-term (<https://jobs.utah.gov/wi/data/employment/shorttermocproj.html>; <https://jobs.utah.gov/wi/data/employment/ocprojections.html>).

**Consistency with Institutional Mission/Impact on Other USHE Institutions**

*Explain how the program is consistent with the institution's Regents-approved mission, roles, and goals. Institutional mission and roles may be found at [higher.utah.edu/policies/policyr312/](http://higher.utah.edu/policies/policyr312/). Indicate if the program will be delivered outside of designated service area; provide justification. Service areas are defined in [higher.utah.edu/policies/policyr315/](http://higher.utah.edu/policies/policyr315/).*

Offering a minor in Social Work to students across the state is consistent with USU's land-grant mission and, more specifically, its goal to "strengthen the recruitment, retention, graduation, and placement of students." It is expected that there will be a growing number of students who will take this minor specifically for the ability to qualify for the SSW license thereby improving their employment opportunities.. The courses required for the SSW license already exist, are approved by the Utah Department of Occupational and Professional Licensing ([https://dopl.utah.gov/forms/SSW\\_Education\\_Courses.pdf](https://dopl.utah.gov/forms/SSW_Education_Courses.pdf)), and are offered frequently throughout the academic year. There will be no change in administrative structure; no need for additional faculty or modified facilities or equipment. While the social work major is available at the University of Utah, Utah Valley University, and Weber State University, the social work minor is not offered at other USHE institutions.

### **Finances**

*What costs or savings are anticipated in implementing the proposed program? If new funds are required, indicate expected sources of funds. Describe any budgetary impact on other programs or units within the institution.*

There is no anticipated financial impact of this new minor. No new resources are needed to implement this minor. Instructional support for the Social Work Minor will be provided through existing instructional offerings. The technology, infrastructure, and structure to deliver the program are in place. There will be no change in administrative structure and no additional faculty.

### Section III: Curriculum

#### Program Curriculum

List all courses, including new courses, to be offered in the proposed program by prefix, number, title, and credit hours (or credit equivalences). Indicate new courses with an X in the appropriate columns. The total number of credit hours should reflect the number of credits required to receive the award. **For NEW Emphases, skip to emphases tables below.**

*For variable credits, please enter the minimum value in the table below for credit hours. To explain variable credit in detail as well as any additional information, use the narrative box below.*

		Course Number	NEW Course	Course Title	Credit Hours
General Education Courses (list specific courses if recommended for this program on Degree Map)					
<b>General Education Credit Hour Sub-Total</b>					0
Required Courses					
+	-	SW 1010		Introduction to Social Work	3
+	-	SW 2100/SW5901		Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3
+	-	SW 2400		Social Work with Diverse Populations	3
+	-	SW 5902		Generalist Social Work Practice	3
+	-	SW 5903		Social Policy and Social Change	3
+	-				
+	-				
+	-				
+	-				
+	-				
<b>Required Course Credit Hour Sub-Total</b>					15
Elective Courses					
+	-	Choose One		Choose One	
+	-	SW 3250		Substance Abuse	3
+	-	SW 3350		Child Welfare	3
+	-	SW 3360		Adolescents: Theories, Problems & Ideas	3
+	-	SW 3450		School Social Work	3
+	-	SW 3550		Social Gerontology	3
+	-	SW 3650		Mental Health	3
+	-	SW 3750		Medical Social Services	3
+	-	SW 3850		Spirituality in Social Work Practice	3
+	-	SW 4900		Topical Issues Seminar	3
+	-	SW 5550		Family Violence: Interpersonal and Intergroup Conflict	3
<b>Elective Credit Hour Sub-Total</b>					3
<b>Core Curriculum Credit Hour Sub-Total</b>					18

## **Program Curriculum Narrative**

*Describe any variable credits. You may also include additional curriculum information, as needed.*

The proposed requirements for a minor in Social Work include six courses totaling 18 credit hours, including five required core courses (15 credits). All students pursuing the minor will take at least one course (3 credits) selected from a list of elective courses.

The first required course is SW 1010: Introduction to Social Work. It is designed to give students a broad understanding of the social work profession. The second required course, SW 2100/SW 5901: Human Behavior in the Social Environment focuses on human behavior and development theories relevant to social work practice. The third required course, SW 2400: Social Work with Diverse Populations, prepares students to engage diversity and difference in practice. The fourth required course, SW 5902: Social Work Practice, prepares students to engage individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. The fifth required course, SW 5903: Social Policy and Social Change, prepares students to engage in policy practice. The 5900-series courses are particularly designed to qualify students for the Utah Social Service Worker (SSW) License. The elective course provides students with the opportunity to obtain more specialized knowledge and skills relevant to their educational and vocational plans.

SW 1010, 2100, and 2400 are already offered online and via interactive video conference (IVC) Fall, Spring, and Summer. SW 5901, 5902, 5903 are currently offered via IVC in the summer but will be offered more often and in an online format beginning Fall 2018. Several electives, including Child Welfare, Adolescents: Theories, Problems & Ideas, Substance Abuse, Mental Health, School Social Work, Spirituality in Social Work Practice, Social Gerontology, Family Violence: Interpersonal and Intergroup Conflict, and a Topical Issues course on Forensic Child Welfare are offered every year via IVC and/or online.

## Degree Map

*Degree maps pertain to undergraduate programs ONLY. Provide a degree map for proposed program. Degree Maps were approved by the State Board of Regents on July 17, 2014 as a degree completion measure. Degree maps or graduation plans are a suggested semester-by-semester class schedule that includes prefix, number, title, and semester hours. For more details see <http://higheredutah.org/pdf/agendas/201407/TAB%20A%202014-7-18.pdf> (Item #3).*

*Please cut-and-paste the degree map or manually enter the degree map in the table below*

The required courses are also offered in the summer to provide students with increased scheduling flexibility.

<b>First Year Fall</b>	<b>Cr. Hr.</b>	<b>First Year Spring</b>	<b>Cr. Hr.</b>
SW 1010	3	SW 2100/5901	3
		SW 2400	3
<b>Total</b>	3	<b>Total</b>	6
<b>Second Year Fall</b>	<b>Cr. Hr.</b>	<b>Second Year Spring</b>	<b>Cr. Hr.</b>
SW 5902	3	SW 5903	3
		Elective	3
<b>Total</b>	3	<b>Total</b>	6
Four Year Map			