The Master of Social Work program prepares students for achievement and leadership in the field of social work. The curricular approach of the MSW program is unique in that it directly engages students in interprofessional education and the health care team approach.

Quinnipiac's MSW program embraces the university's commitment to the development of professional expertise through practice experience. The two field placements offer students the opportunity to practice skills learned in the classroom in real-world settings. A seminar that supports the student in integrating academic and fieldwork is held monthly. Upon completion of the MSW degree, the student will have at least 1,000 hours of professional preparation in the field.

The 60 credits required for the MSW degree include 30 credits in the generalist curriculum and 30 credits in the specialized practice curriculum. The degree can be completed full-time in four terms of study or through an extended plan over six or eight terms. Students with a BSW from a CSWE-accredited program may apply for Advanced Standing and complete 36 credits over one or two years.

The specialized practice curriculum has a concentration of health/behavioral health. An integrative seminar/capstone project is completed in the final semester of study and requires an integrative paper or project. The MSW program values interprofessional education and requires students to complete 30 hours of interprofessional education activities before graduation. The MSW program at Quinnipiac University does not give credit for life or work experience.

Students entering Quinnipiac as undergraduates who are interested in the social work program also have the option of pursuing a dual-degree bachelor's/master's program. There are two options: the Accelerated Dual-Degree BS in Health Science Studies/Master of Social Work (3+2) (http://catalog.qu.edu/health-sciences/biomedical-sciences/hss-msw) or the Accelerated Dual-Degree Bachelor's/Master of Social Work (3+2) (http://catalog.qu.edu/graduate-studies/health-sciences/accelerated-ba-msw) program, which begins with undergraduate study in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students who are interested in earning a JD and a Master of Social Work may earn both degrees on an accelerated basis by enrolling in the joint JD/MSW degree program (http://catalog.qu.edu/school-of-law/juris-doctor/jd-msw). Please see the Admission (p. 4) tab for additional details.

The MSW degree also meets the academic requirements for licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

### Traditional MSW Program of Study

Students can choose among three plans of study for the traditional MSW.

**Two-Year Full-Time MSW**

Students in this plan of study enter the MSW program in the fall semester and complete the degree over four terms of study in two academic years. In addition to their classes, students are required to complete generalist and specialized practice field placements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW 505</td>
<td>Social Work Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Three-Year Extended MSW**

Students complete the generalist curriculum over two years with a reduced course load and then attend classes full time to complete the specialized practice curriculum. In addition to their classes, students are required to complete generalist and specialized practice field placements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW 505</td>
<td>Social Work Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SW 511 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I: Theories for Practice for Individuals and Families 3

Credits 6

Spring Semester
SW 507 Issues of Diversity and Oppression 3
SW 512 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II: Theories for Groups, Organizations and Communities 3

Credits 6

Second Year
Fall Semester
SW 500 Generalist Field Education Practicum I 3
SW 501 Social Work Practice I: Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families 3
SW 504 Social Welfare and Social Policy 3

Credits 9

Spring Semester
SW 502 Generalist Field Education Practicum II 3
SW 503 Social Work Practice II: Social Work Practice with Groups, Organizations and Communities 3
SW 508 Psychopathology 3

Credits 9

Third Year
Fall Semester
SW 600 Specialized Practice Field Education Practicum in Health/Behavioral Health I 4
SW 601 Social Work Practice III: Specialized Clinical Social Work Practice 3
SW 604 Evaluation Research Work Programs and Practice 2

Select two electives 1 6

Credits 15

Spring Semester
SW 602 Specialized Practice Field Education Practicum in Health/Behavioral Health II 4
SW 603 Social Work Practice IV: Specialized Organizational Social Work Practice 3
SW 605 Integrative Seminar/Capstone Project 2

Select two electives 1 6

Credits 15

Total Credits 60

1 Of the four elective courses, two must be clinical elective courses.

Four-Year Extended MSW

Students complete the generalist curriculum over two years with a reduced course load and then complete the specialized practice curriculum over two years with a reduced course load. In addition to their classes, students are required to complete generalist and specialized practice field placements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 505</td>
<td>Social Work Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 511</td>
<td>Human Behavior in the Social Environment I: Theories for Practice for Individuals and Families</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credits 6

Spring Semester
SW 507 Issues of Diversity and Oppression 3
SW 512 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II: Theories for Groups, Organizations and Communities 3

Credits 6

Second Year
Fall Semester
SW 500 Generalist Field Education Practicum I 3
SW 501 Social Work Practice I: Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families 3
SW 504 Social Welfare and Social Policy 3

Credits 9

Spring Semester
SW 502 Generalist Field Education Practicum II 3
SW 503 Social Work Practice II: Social Work Practice with Groups, Organizations and Communities 3
SW 508 Psychopathology 3

Credits 9

Third Year
Fall Semester
Select two electives 1 6

Credits 6

Spring Semester
Select two electives 1 6

Credits 6

Fourth Year
Fall Semester
SW 600 Specialized Practice Field Education Practicum in Health/Behavioral Health I 4
SW 601 Social Work Practice III: Specialized Clinical Social Work Practice 3
SW 604 Evaluation Research Work Programs and Practice 2

Credits 9

Spring Semester
SW 602 Specialized Practice Field Education Practicum in Health/Behavioral Health II 4
SW 603 Social Work Practice IV: Specialized Organizational Social Work Practice 3
SW 605 Integrative Seminar/Capstone Project 2

Credits 9

Total Credits 60

1 Of the four elective courses, two must be clinical elective courses.
Advanced Standing MSW Program of Study

Students can choose among two plans of study for the Advanced Standing MSW.

The curriculum for the professional courses in the program are subject to modification as deemed necessary to maintain a high-quality educational experience and keep current with best practices in the profession.

Full-Time Advanced Standing

Students begin in the summer with two courses, then complete the specialized practice curriculum full time. In addition to their classes, students are required to complete a specialized practice field placement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Semester</td>
<td>SW 507 Issues of Diversity and Oppression</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SW 508 Psychopathology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester</td>
<td>SW 600 Specialized Practice Field Education Practicum in Health/Behavioral Health I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SW 601 Social Work Practice III: Specialized Clinical Social Work Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SW 604 Evaluation Research Work Programs and Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select two elective courses ¹</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Semester</td>
<td>SW 602 Specialized Practice Field Education Practicum in Health/Behavioral Health II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SW 603 Social Work Practice IV: Specialized Organizational Social Work Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SW 605 Integrative Seminar/Capstone Project</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select two elective courses ¹</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Of the four elective courses, two must be clinical elective courses.

Part-Time Advanced Standing

Students begin in the summer with two courses, then complete the specialized practice curriculum over two years with a reduced course load. In addition to their classes, students are required to complete a specialized practice field placement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Semester</td>
<td>SW 507 Issues of Diversity and Oppression</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SW 508 Psychopathology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester</td>
<td>Two elective courses ¹</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Of the four elective courses, two must be clinical elective courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the MSW program, students will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. **Ethics**: Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior.
2. **Diversity**: Demonstrate and embrace diversity and difference.
5. **Policy**: Engage in policy practice.
6. **Engagement**: Assess, intervene and engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.
7. **Evaluation**: Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Quinnipiac University MSW program is to prepare social workers for specialized practice in the context of health and behavioral health settings through a curriculum that focuses on clinical practice, organizational practice, and interprofessional teamwork. The MSW program is guided by a person-in-environment framework, a global perspective, respect for human diversity, and knowledge based on scientific inquiry, for the purpose of educating social work professionals to promote human and community well-being. The program's core values are as follows and reflect the NASW Code of Ethics for Social Workers: service, social justice, the dignity and worth of the person, the importance of human relationships, integrity and competence.

The MSW program has the following four goals:

1. Prepare social workers to be specialized practitioners in diverse systems of various sizes, emphasizing competent, ethical clinical and organizational practice toward the advancement of the human condition. The specialized curriculum will build upon the generalist
curriculum, which is focused on the necessity of knowledge and skills to practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

2. Prepare social workers to practice without discrimination with diverse populations.

3. Prepare social workers to engage in professional activities that promote interprofessional collaboration and advocacy within diverse environments toward the enhancement of the human condition.

4. Prepare students for lifelong professional development.

**Admission**

To qualify for admission to the program, students must have earned a bachelor’s degree from a college or university accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association, with a preferred minimum GPA of 3.0 and at least 20 semester credits in liberal arts, and a course in statistics (with a grade of C or higher). Students with a BSW from a CSWE-accredited program may choose to apply for Advanced Standing.

**Background Check and Drug Screening**

To ensure their safety and maintain high-quality care of patients, clinical affiliates of the university require students to have a criminal background check. All students entering the Quinnipiac MSW program are required to undergo a criminal background check (through the university vendor) prior to beginning classes. This is a mandatory component of the program. In addition, MSW students may be required to undergo a criminal background re-check and/or drug screen prior to any of their field placements. The results are made available to the student through their own personal and secure online portal. Whenever a Quinnipiac MSW student may need proof of his/her criminal background check for field placements, the student will release the information directly from their personal portal to the clinical site. The cost of the criminal background check and any re-checks and/or drug screens is the responsibility of each individual student.

**Dual-Degree JD/MSW**

Students interested in earning both a JD and a Master of Social Work may earn both degrees on an accelerated basis by enrolling in the Dual-Degree JD/MSW program. Students must apply and be accepted separately to each program. Ideally, students would apply to both programs before starting either but a student enrolled in either program could, during the first year (and possibly later), apply for and be accepted to the other program.

For more information, see the Dual-Degree JD/MSW page (http://catalog.qu.edu/school-of-law/juris-doctor/jd-msw).

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

The CSWE address is:

**Council on Social Work Education**

1701 Duke Street, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-683-8080
Fax: 703-683-8099
Email: info@cswe.org

Website: CSWE.org (http://www.cswe.org)