

SOCIAL WORK – M.S.W. WITH CRIMINAL JUSTICE – M.S.

Program directors

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Loma Linda University's motto, "To make man whole," provides a powerful context for integrated practice. Both social work and criminal justice—within a behavioral health framework—emphasize recovery, healing, and restoration.

A multidisciplinary approach considers the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual well-being of victims, offenders, and communities, and provides a deeper understanding of crime and the struggle of the modern criminal justice system in a behavioral health context. This combined degree program offers a unique opportunity for individuals interested in working in settings such as mental health court, detention centers, forensic inpatient programs, and forensic outpatient behavioral health systems.

Mission

The mission, program goals, and objectives build on elements from the M.S.W and M.S. in criminal justice degrees. Please refer to each of these programs for this content.

General overview

The combined M.S.W./M.S. in criminal justice program is a seven-quarter, full-time curriculum that begins with the social work core coursework required for all students. Coursework during the first year of study includes the generalist practice curriculum, which is grounded in the liberal arts and the person-in-environment framework. Within this framework, students learn to promote social well-being, and build on the strength and resiliency of all human beings through a range of prevention and intervention practice methods when working with diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. During their second year, students complete a clinical practice specialization along with specialized courses and practicum in forensic behavioral health. Students choosing this area will focus on the needs of individuals in the criminal or juvenile justice systems who experience severe mental illness and who may also present with co-occurring substance use. Students will gain knowledge and skills in treatment programming. In addition, students will be prepared to assess and provide expert testimony regarding continued institutionalization versus readiness for community treatment.

Students gain knowledge and skills in treatment programming within a forensic mental health framework. This context prepares students to assess and provide expert testimony regarding continued institutionalization versus readiness for outpatient psychosocial rehabilitation, including the development and implementation of recovery and resiliency-informed treatment plans. An integrated practicum and seminar class in criminal justice typically begins in the Summer Quarter of the second year.

The combined degrees emphasize a thoughtful reflection about integrated issues in both social work and criminal justice, providing

students with a deeper understanding of practice issues affecting the field.

Liberal arts preparation

M.S.W. and criminal justice curricula are built on a liberal arts perspective. Individual applicants whose undergraduate degree does not reflect this perspective may be asked to enroll in additional courses, which must be completed before advancement to candidacy (prior to beginning the advanced curriculum).

Unit values are stated as quarter units. Content from multiple courses may be used to meet most requirements.

Program options

This in-person program incorporates a blend of traditional classroom experiences and online courses to provide students with a versatile learning environment. Alternate program options have also been designed to address the varying needs of students: namely, a full-time, two-year option; a three-year, part-time option; and a four-year, part-time option.

Due to the use of online and hybrid teaching formats, visas are not available to international students; therefore, international students cannot not be accepted into the M.S.W./M.S. Criminal Justice Program.

Laptop Computer

Students are required to have a laptop computer. For computer specifications, see the department website (<https://behavioralhealth.llu.edu/academics/social-work-and-social-ecology/social-work-msw-online-or-campus/>).

Admissions

Students wishing to take the dual degree must be admitted to both the M.S.W. (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/behavioral-health/social-work-msw/#admissionstext>) and the M.S. in Criminal Justice (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/behavioral-health/criminal-justice-ms/#admissionstext>) programs separately. Applicants should refer to the admissions criteria for each program.

Program requirements

The 90-unit curriculum for the M.S.W. and M.S. degrees in Criminal Justice provides a mix of academic, experiential, and research activities essential for practice. Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 point scale (a letter grade of B) in order to progress successfully through the program and complete the degree. In addition, students must meet the knowledge, skills, and professional performance competencies outlined by the program. Students must meet both course and cumulative G.P.A. standards and course repeat expectations set by the School of Behavioral Health in the general regulations (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/behavioral-health/#generalregulationstext>) section of this CATALOG.

Generalist curriculum

SOWK 510	Diversity Theory in Practice and Research	3
SOWK 513	Human Behavior in a Culturally Diverse Environment	4
SOWK 514	Social Welfare History and Policy	4
SOWK 517	Practice I: Individuals	4
SOWK 518	Practice II: Groups	3

SOWK 519	Practice III: Organizations and Communities	3
SOWK 520	Practice IV: Families ¹	3
SOWK 548	Research Methods	5
SOWK 574	Practice V: Administration, Management, and Supervision	3
SOWK 578	Field Orientation ¹	0
SOWK 585	Legal and Ethical Aspects in Health and Behavioral Health Services	3

Required cognates

RELR 540	Wholeness and Health	3
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Core criminal justice courses

CRMJ 515	Crime and Society	3
CRMJ 517	Criminal Procedure and Rules of Evidence	3
CRMJ 519	Expert Testimony: Procedure and Practice	2
CRMJ 574	Theories of Crime and Restitution	3

Clinical specialization and forensic behavioral health

CRMJ 620	Forensic Mental Health	3
SOWK 584	Special Topics in Social Work	2
SOWK 613	DSM: Diagnosis, Diversity, and Differences	4
SOWK 617	Social Justice and Global Practice	3
SOWK 620	Psychopharmacology in Clinical Practice	2
SOWK 647	Integrated Behavioral Health Practice	3
SOWK 648	Co-occurring Processes and Interventions	3
SOWK 659	Recovery in Behavioral Health	2
SOWK 661	Psychodynamic Therapies	4
SOWK 662	Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies	4
SOWK 663	Crisis and Trauma Interventions	3
SOWK 681	Behavioral Health Policies and Systems	2

Degree completion options **6**Non-thesis option: ⁶

SOWK 695A	Advanced Research Methods	
SOWK 695B	Advanced Research Methods	
SOWK 695C	Advanced Research Methods	

Thesis option: ²

SOWK 697	Applied Research	
SOWK 698	Thesis	

Practicum and seminar ⁵

CRMJ 787	Advanced Professional Practicum and Seminar	
SOWK 757A	Generalist Practice Consultation ^{3,7}	
SOWK 757B	Generalist Practice Consultation ^{3,7}	
SOWK 757C	Generalist Practice Consultation ^{3,7,8}	
SOWK 787A	Clinical Practice Consultation ⁴	
SOWK 787B	Clinical Practice Consultation ⁴	
SOWK 787C	Clinical Practice Consultation ⁴	

Total Units **90**¹ Not eligible for waiver.² Thesis option is available for students meeting program criteria.³ Hours: 160 + 20; Not eligible for waiver⁴ Hours: 200 + 20⁵ 700-numbered courses are not calculated into the total didactic units required for the degree.⁶ SOWK 695 ABC is equivalent to SOWK 695.⁷ SOWK 678 substitutes 757ABC for Advance Standing students with approval of the program⁸ Students not passing the Qualifying Review at the completion of SOWK 757C must take SOWK 595.**Normal time to complete the program**

Seven (7) academic quarters (includes didactic courses and practicums) — based on full-time enrollment; part time permitted