

School of Health Sciences

Graduate Pathway Plan

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Pacific's Master of Social Work program prepares justice-oriented and culturally-responsive social workers who become integral components of interdisciplinary healthcare teams. Two accelerated programs are available: a 12-month Advanced Standing program for students enrolled in the BA Sociology + MSW Dual Degree Program, and a 16-month program for students with bachelors degrees in other academic disciplines.

As the only social work program dedicated to healthcare in California, this innovative program integrates simulation lab training, interprofessional education, and supervised practice in healthcare-related field sites. Students engage in a rigorous, practice-based curriculum including courses on social determinants of health, clinical interventions in healthcare, and the option to pursue a subspecialty in diabetes care and management.

STARTING TERM:

FALL

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

DECEMBER 1 (12-MONTH PROGRAM); JULY 1 (16-MONTH PROGRAM)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

For students enrolled in the BA Sociology+ MSW Dual-Degree Pathway Program:

1. Completed program application with all required supporting documents by published application deadline
2. Satisfactory completion of all prerequisite courses with minimum GPA of 3.3 in health studies, humanities, and social and behavioral science courses.
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0

= GUARANTEED ADMISSION INTERVIEW

For Students **NOT** enrolled in the BA Sociology+ MSW Dual-Degree Pathway Program:

1. Completed program application with all required supporting documents by published application deadline
2. Satisfactory completion of all prerequisite courses with minimum grades of "C" (2.0).
3. Minimum GPA of 2.75 earned in the last 60 units of postsecondary education.

= GUARANTEED ADMISSION INTERVIEW

4-Year MSW Preparation Plan

This four-year plan will strengthen your preparation for success in Pacific's Master of Social Work program as well as enhance the depth, focus, and quality of your Pacific undergraduate experience.

	Academic Program Planning	Make Community Connections	Build Cultural Competence	Gain Career Experience	Post-Graduation Prep
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Establish a preliminary course plan with your academic advisor. - Learn about Pathway Program support services. - Start building relationships with faculty and staff in your department. - Join at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Join a health-related student club/ organization. -Visit Pacific Volunteer Center to find volunteer opportunities. - Arrange an informal interview with a health professional in the field of your interest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Join a culturally-engaging campus or community group. -Attend a study abroad info session to learn about study abroad opportunities. - Participate in events sponsored by the Office of DEI. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Meet your Career Services Pre-Health advisor. - Take a career assessment test. - Develop your professional resume. -Set up a Handshake account. - Shadow 1-2 social workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Learn about graduate program admission requirements. - Attend a graduate program information session and grad fair to get initial contact with program. -Explore career options for your major. -Set up a LinkedIn account. - Connect to Pacific's MSW program social media channels.
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Academic plan check-in with your academic advisor. -Discuss research interests and opportunities with your academic advisor. - Join at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Look for a service-learning course or continue volunteering at a local non-profit organization. -Seek a leadership role in a student club/ organization. - Join an academic or social fraternity/ sorority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Participate in cross-cultural development experiences on campus and/ or in the local community (cultural holiday observances/ festivals, campus affinity group workshops, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with your Career Services Pre-Health Advisor. - Get a summer internship or job in the social work field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend a graduate school fair at Pacific. - Research MSW application requirements and processes. -Visit the MSW program facilities and talk with faculty and grad admission staff.
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Academic plan check-in with academic advisor. -Join an undergraduate research project. - Join at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seek a president/ vice-president-level leadership role in a student club. - Plan club/ community events that align with your personal goals. - Become involved in mentoring in your student club or volunteer organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Participate in additional cross-cultural development experiences on campus and/ or in the local community (cultural holiday observances/ festivals, campus affinity group workshops, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with your Career Services Pre-Health Advisor. -Attend a professional social work conference or workshop event. -Continue gaining work/ volunteer experience in the social work field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Network with current graduate students in MSW program. - Pre-select faculty and employer recommenders for your graduate application.
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Graduation check with academic advisor. -Continue involvement in at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Connect with the admission counselor for the graduate program you're applying for. -Continue leadership and mentorship roles in your student club/ volunteer organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in a cultural competency, anti-racism, or DEI training/course. - Participate in events sponsored by the Office of DEI. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Update your resume and participate in Career Center workshops (mock interviews, cover letter writing, etc.) - Continue gaining social work volunteer/ work experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend a graduate application workshop. - Complete your Pacific graduate application (work with a graduate admission advisor to assist you). - Attend a Graduate Financial Aid workshop. - Complete an updated FAFSA form.