Master of Social Work (MSW)

Degree Offered: • Master of Social Work

The Master of Social Work (MSW) program is a full-time, two year, 60 credit hour curriculum. We also offer a full-time, one year, 30-33 credit hour advanced standing curriculum. Both the two year and advanced standing programs are designed to train students for advanced clinical social work practice children and families. After the completion of this program, students are prepared to take state licensing examinations at the LMSW (Licensed Master of Social Work) level and to begin preparation for the LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker).

What can I do with an MSW?
• Graduates can pursue work in a variety of positions and settings including clinical practice in hospitals, drug rehabilitation centers, community clinics, private practice, correctional facilities, employee assistance programs (EAP), nursing homes, and schools. Social Workers can also use their MSW to work as counselors, practitioner, consultants, researchers, program evaluators, trainers, educators, and policy advocates.

MSW @ Daemen
• Daemen’s Social Work Program has an outstanding reputation in WNY.
• With an exceptionally favorable student-to-instructor ratio, Daemen’s learning environment provides for an individualized and personal approach to learning.
• Our program provides a unique curricular design which allows for interdisciplinary collaboration with allied programs such as the Master of Public Health (MPH) program, Executive Leadership and Change, and other graduate programs.
• Courses are held in afternoon, evenings, and weekends for working students.
• Graduate students will have the opportunity to build and strengthen their research skills through community based projects and work with faculty on specialized research.
• Daemen MSW Faculty are best described as scholar-practitioners in the field of Social Work.

Individuals who apply to the MSW program:
• Have a deep desire to improve the lives of others.
• Feel they have an ethical responsibility to change the world.
• Have human or social service experience.
• Want to build or enhance their clinical skills.

If you fit into any of the categories listed, you belong in the MSW Program @ Daemen College!!
Regular Admission
Students applying to the two year MSW Program should submit the following: a transcript documenting that they have completed a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution; a completed application with fee; personal statement; three letters of reference; 2.7 GPA or higher; GRE scores (no more than five years old); and evidence of completed course work in Human Biology and Statistics with a grade of C or better.

Advanced Standing
Students applying to the one year Advanced Standing MSW Program should submit a transcript documenting that they have completed: a baccalaureate degree in social work from a CSWE accredited program; a completed application with fee; personal statement; field evaluations; three letters of reference (one letter has to be from the undergraduate program director); 3.0 overall or higher GPA and 3.2 GPA or higher in social work courses; GRE scores (no more than five years old); and evidence of course work in Human Biology and Statistics with a grade of C or better.

Curriculum
In the foundation year of the master of social work curriculum, students are taught the basics of generalist social work practice, policy, diversity, research and ethics. The advanced concentration or clinical year focuses on the development of clinical practice skills such as mental health assessment and treatment, diagnosis using the DSM V, managing crisis, demonstrating competency in a clinical practicum settings that emphasizes children and families. Students must complete a year-long internship each year of the program at an approved agency under the supervision of a licensed social worker. Students can also select from a wide variety of electives that support the clinical concentration. A licensure preparation course is also built in to the curriculum to assist students in successfully passing the social work licensing exams.

Professional Outlook
According to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States. The profession is expected to grow by 25 percent between 2010 and 2020. More than 650,000 people currently hold social work degrees. Also, there is high demand for clinical social workers in State of New York.

Patricia Bell
"As someone who knew Daemen was right for me on my first visit, it was only natural that I chose to continue my education here as well. The option to apply for Advanced Standing and be done with a Masters Degree in one year was too tempting and I decided to apply. The MSW program is designed for working individuals and leaves students the freedom to continue working while they pursue a degree which is really important.

After I graduate with my MSW in May, I plan to sit for the Licensure exam as soon as possible. Daemen has a Licensure Prep course in the spring and really pushes that all graduates get Licensed. Long term, I would like to get Clinically Licensed and open a Private Practice in Family Counseling."

Katelyn Carr
"This year, I am a Master’s of Social Work Graduate student intern at a facility called Fox Run. Here, I intern on the Memory Care unit, Assisted Living floor, and the long-term care level. I assess and intervene with residents, depending on their cognitive level of functioning.

This upcoming summer, I have decided to join my fellow classmates and professors, and embark on a service learning trip to Thailand. We will be helping individuals that have suffered from the sex trafficking issue that has become a serious problem. I am eager to see another part of the world, as well as utilize my social work skills and make a difference in their lives."

For more information, contact the Social Work Department at:
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