



***The goals of the MSW program are to prepare advanced generalist practitioners who:***

- 1. Practice with a critically self-reflective ethical posture**
- 2. Practice with a strengths-based perspective and empowerment approach**
- 3. Utilize a social justice and human rights framework**
- 4. Embrace a social action stance towards practice**
- 5. Recognize the centrality of health in the lives of all people and work to**

***The objectives of the MSW program at the School of Social Welfare are to prepare students who demonstrate:***

- 1. critically self-reflective ethical practice through:**
  - a. the use of self-reflection, self-awareness, and self-critical analysis as the foundation for social work practice;
  - b. close examination of myths and assumptions that often do not reflect the interests of social justice or human rights;
  - c. an evidenced-based practice orientation; and
  - d. the use of knowledge, scientific inquiry and research methods to question the effectiveness of interventive strategies and service delivery systems.
- 2. strengths-based perspective and empowerment approach through:**
  - a. the study of the person-in-the-environment and the developmental life span perspective in the context of the social environment;
  - b. the application of a strengths-based perspective to the analysis of individual, group and community well-being; and
  - c. the examination of social diversity and its impact on human behavior in our society.
- 3. a social justice and human rights framework through:**
  - a. social work professional values of social justice, human dignity, service, diversity, integrity, and the value of human relationships;
  - b. a commitment to culturally competent practice; and
  - c. mastery of practice roles at the micro, mezzo and macro levels as a means of achieving social justice.
- 4. social action and leadership through:**
  - a. knowledge of the historical, political, governmental, environmental and economic processes that lead to the development of social work as a profession, as well as current social institutions, welfare programs, reforms and policies;
  - b. knowledge of the social forces, social problems, and theoretical currents that influence the growth of social services and practice modalities;
  - c. mastery of values, skills and knowledge for the analysis and development of social policies, issues and strategies; and
  - d. an understanding of the impact, dynamics and long-term consequences of oppression—and privilege—on people and implications for empowerment-based interventions.
- 5. a commitment to promote a more just and health-affirming society through:**
  - a. the development of creative approaches to program design;
  - b. advocacy for the equitable distribution of resources;
  - c. fostering mutually collaborative relationships; and
  - d. an examination of how physical conditions may impact overall well-being.

