School of Social Work
Do Work That Matters!
Vibrant Downtown Location
Continuously CSWE-accredited since 1927, the Tulane School of Social Work is located in downtown New Orleans, forming a graduate hub with the School of Public Health and the School of Medicine. It is one block from Canal Street and the wonderful French Quarter. The location puts us at the center of a growing medical corridor encompassing 2.4 square miles in the heart of New Orleans’ Downtown Medical District. The most recent developments are the newly constructed University Medical Center and the VA hospital that opened in August 2015 with a combined investment of approximately $2 billion.

Alumni
As with any institution of higher education, our success is based, in large part, on the success of our students once they leave our halls and enter the professional world. Since our inception as the first school of social work in the deep south, we have produced more than 5,000 graduates. These exceptional social workers have assumed leadership roles across the country, serving the public via civic or governmental organizations or in private practice. Let us know where you live and we'll put you in touch with someone close to you.

Contact Us
Tulane School of Social Work
Office of Admissions
127 Elk Place – 8906
New Orleans, LA 70112
1-800-631-8234
msw@tulane.edu
tulane.edu/socialwork

Students
- Class Size: 185 full-time and 40 part-time MSW students
- Average GPA: 3.39
- Average Age: 27
- Class size: 16 students per classroom

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Quick Overview Some Facts about the School and its Students

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LMSW exam pass rate
81% Tulane 5 year average pass rate
National 5 year average pass rate = 79.6% (2009-2013)

Clinical exam pass rate
84% Tulane 5 year average pass rate
National 4 year average pass rate = 75.6% (2008-2011, 2013)
Socially Involved
Locally Focused
Globally Engaged

As Dean of the School, I am very pleased to invite you to carefully look at our unique and diverse program.

Key to having a successful program is having a diverse faculty who are experts in their respective specialties. Our faculty is comprised of scholars, who are skilled and dedicated teachers, with varied expertise and practice experience in such areas as: social work practice methods; trauma; substance abuse; evidence-based practice; domestic violence; child welfare; HIV/AIDS; disasters; social welfare history; infant, child and adult development; international social work; crisis intervention; juvenile delinquency; group methods; and qualitative and quantitative research.

Through our very well established global program, we have forged direct linkages with universities and programs in several regions of the world including Asia, Africa and Latin America. Each fall, I personally lead a student trip to north India, to Dharamsala, which is the home of the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government in Exile. Locally, our school’s Institute for Psychosocial Health provides training opportunities for MSW students in psychosocial health and resilience enhancement.

Whether it is practice, research, teaching or a combination of these, social work is an exemplar for all other service professions insofar as it blends humanism and proficiency in its response to the breadth and depth of human problems of living.

We hope you’ll join us in DOING WORK THAT MATTERS.

Dean Ron Marks

Tulane School of Social Work: By the Numbers

185
current students

MSW students

21 - 55
age range; average age is 27

> 100
field placements to choose from

3.39
average GPA of first-year students

28
different undergraduate majors enrolled in the program

45%
relocated to New Orleans to attend school

16
tenured, tenured-track and research faculty

MSW faculty

• Community Development
• Clinical Social Work
• Data Analysis
• Disaster Resilience
• Family Practice
• Mental Health Disparities
• Public Policy
• Refugees
• Social & Economic Development
• Social Policy
• Substance Abuse
• Vulnerable Children and Families

Statistics reflect 2015-16 academic year
OUR MISSION & GOALS

The mission of the Master of Social Work Program at the Tulane University School of Social Work is to educate future social workers to engage in competent, ethical, clinical-community practice that is relationship-centered, evidence-informed, and empowerment-focused, incorporating a global/local perspective.

MSW Program Goals

The Tulane University School of Social Work Master of Social Work Program:

1. Prepares students to engage in relationship-centered, clinical-community practice to enhance the biopsychosocial capacity and resilience of individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities;
2. Teaches students to value human diversity and work to promote social and economic justice;
3. Prepares students to create and exchange responsive, community-based knowledge and research for relevant, effective, and innovative social work practice; and
4. Promotes integrative learning by drawing from and contributing to the diverse, culturally rich, inspiring, and challenging environment of New Orleans and through opportunities for intercultural experience.

OUR STUDENT BODY

Gender:
- Male, 13%
- Female, 87%

Ethnicity:
- African American, 72%
- Mixed, 12%
- Pacific Islander, 4%
- Unknown, 1%

Age:
- 21-24, 46%
- 25-29, 30%
- 30-35, 8%
- 36-45, 10%
- 46-55, 7%
**PROGRAM OPTIONS**

**Paths to Get Your MSW**

**MSW Programs**
- 16-month full-time
- 12-month advanced standing
- Part-time evening program

**Certificates**
- Disaster Mental Health & Trauma Studies
- Family Practice
- Global Social Work

**Dual Degrees**
- MSW/MPH in Global Community Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences
- Master of Social Work and Juris Doctor
- MSW with Master of Science in Disaster Resilience Leadership

For more information about MSW program options, visit [http://tulane.edu/socialwork/degrees/degrees-offered.cfm](http://tulane.edu/socialwork/degrees/degrees-offered.cfm).

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**Customize your learning experience**

Through our impressive range of electives and our three certificate programs — earned concurrently within your MSW curriculum and field internship — students are able to customize their learning and focus of their master’s degree.

The **Certificate in Disaster Mental Health & Trauma Studies** allows our students to bring tremendous healing and encourages the release of natural resilience in our citizens and organizations to make our region even stronger. As the city of New Orleans faces challenges of crime, economic and health care disparities and the Gulf Coast region continues to recover from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as well as the BP Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill, Tulane School of Social Work students are on the ground helping in neighborhoods, health clinics and crisis intervention settings.

The **Certificate in Family Practice** is one of only a handful of family practice certificate programs in the United States. Our program involves a rigorous combination of coursework, family practice-related field placements and a family-based professional project. This program, affiliated with and funded by the Porter-Cason Institute, was developed as a result of a large private contribution from a Tulane MSW alumnus for the purpose of training advanced family practitioners. This gift helps the school fund lectures from local and national experts as well as advanced training of counselors in our community, many of whom will be supervising you in your field placements. Many of these resources will represent an exciting and integral part of your unique training.

The **Certificate in Global Social Work** is an opportunity for students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to be able to effect social change from a local to global scale. Through coursework and field activities, our students explore theories of globalization and indigenization, examine international and human rights policies, and enhance their ability to practice social work in a global context and with diverse populations. Within a range of programs from immigrant and refugee services in the USA to humanitarian aid organizations abroad, students can further develop their cross-cultural skills through participation in one of our exciting international field placement experiences during their final semester in the MSW program.

**Dual Degrees**

The Tulane School of Social Work offers a trio of dual degrees for students looking to expand their studies. Each dual degree is earned along with your MSW, but the curriculum and exact timeline for classes is determined by the dual degree chosen. The School of Social Work partners will the School of Public Health, School of Law and the Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy to offer these additional areas of study.

For more information about our many dual degree options, visit [tulane.edu/socialwork](http://tulane.edu/socialwork).

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# MSW Curriculum, 60 total credit hours

## Full-time (16 months)

### Foundation Courses
**Fall Semester: 16 credits**
- Professional Foundations (7110)
- Social Work History & Policy (7120)
- Diversity & Social Justice (7130)
- Intro to Organizational & Community Practice (7140)
- Theory I (7210)
- Intro to Direct Social Work Practice (7310)
- Tools I (7410)

**Spring Semester: 15 credits**
- Theory II (7220)
- Community Organizing & Policy Advocacy (7230)
- SW Practice with Individuals, Families, & Groups (7320)
- Tools II (7420)
- Field Practicum I – 22 hours (7520)
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580)

### Advanced Courses
**Summer Semester: 15 credits**
- Advanced Methods (7330)
- Data Analysis & Interpretation (7430)
- Field Practicum II – 22 hours (7530)
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580)
- SW Elective

**Fall Semester: 14 credits**
- Capstone Seminar (7440)
- Professional Project (7470)
- Field Practicum III – 22 hours (7540)
- Field Seminar (7580)
- SW Elective
- SW Elective

## Part-time (32 months)

### Foundation Courses
**Spring I Semester: 7.5 credits**
- Professional Foundations (7110) 0.5
- Social Work History & Policy (7120) 3
- Diversity & Social Justice (7130) 2
- Theory I (7210) 2
- Theory II (7220) 2
- Intro to Direct SW Practice (7310) 3

**Summer I Semester: 7.5 credits**
- Professional Foundations (7110) 0.5
- Intro to Organizational & Community Practice (7140) 2
- Theory II (7220) 2
- Intro to Direct SW Practice (7310) 3

**Fall I Semester: 8.5 credits**
- SW Practice with Individuals, Families, & Groups (7320) 3
- Tools I (7410) 3
- Field Practicum I (7910) 2.5
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580) 0

### Advanced Courses
**Summer II Semester: 7.5 credits**
- Community Organizing & Policy Advocacy (7230) 3
- Tools II (7420) 2
- Field Practicum II (7920) 2.5
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580) 0

**Fall II Semester: 7.5 credits**
- Advanced Methods (7330) 5
- Field Practicum III (7930) 2.5
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580) 0

**Spring III Semester: 6.5 credits**
- Capstone Seminar (7440) 2
- Field Practicum V (7950) 2.5
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580) 0
- SW Elective
- SW Elective

**Summer III Semester: 7.5 credits**
- Professional Project (7470) 3
- Field Practicum VI (7960) 2.5
- Field Seminar – bi-monthly (7580) 0
- SW Elective
- SW Elective

**NOTE** – Advanced standing students begin in the Spring semester while part-time students can graduate in 24 months if they move to the full-time program for the final two semesters. Dual degree curriculum adds additional hours to these plans.
By coming to the Tulane School of Social Work, students join an institution that has a strong reputation for globally focused programming and international capacity building through its many partnerships with local agencies, foreign universities, and multinational nongovernmental organizations. These collaborative relationships have included sites in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Europe, the Middle East and across the USA.

STUDY ABROAD COURSES
For almost two decades, over 200 students have participated in our study abroad courses which include immersive experiential learning activities, advancement of skills in cultural sensitivity and community development, and education on local social work practices and social justice issues. Facilitated by Dr. Ron Marks, students in the course to India work intensively with Tibetan refugees to assist and support programs to better address the needs and human rights of this community locally and globally.

INTERNATIONAL FIELD PLACEMENTS
MSW students can also apply to participate in semester long international field placements with social service organizations around the world. Since 2007, over 50 students have learned about and practiced international social work in a dozen different countries across the globe. From conducting a gender-based violence awareness campaign in Belize to investigating best practices for the deinstitutionalization of orphanages in Rwanda to conducting mental health assessments for Syrian refugees in Jordan, our students are making a difference in the global well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

GLOBAL RESEARCH
Students at the Tulane School of Social Work have access to faculty who are involved in multiple research projects that have a world-wide impact. In South Africa, the Highly Vulnerable Children Research Center led by Dr. Tonya Thurman is a multi-disciplinary initiative dedicated to compiling an evidence base for programs serving disadvantaged and orphaned children. Dr. Jennifer McCleary’s work with Burmese and Bhutanese populations in the USA addresses the mental health needs of refugees and survivors of conflict and torture.
Field education is an integral part of your educational experience at the Tulane School of Social Work. Social workers live and breathe the same air as their clients, and your field placement will expose you to real-world social work, as well as the diversity of populations and social issues.

New Orleans is a living laboratory, and your classroom studies will compliment and enhance what you’ll learn by working with everyday people with everyday issues that you’ll see for the rest of your career. We work with community agencies enabling you to grow and prosper in a professional setting. More than 75 social service agencies, government entities, schools and hospitals throughout the city of New Orleans and the surrounding parishes participate in our field internship program.

Upon completion of your MSW degree, you will have completed 990 hours of hands-on training. With guidance and mentoring from your academic advisor and field instructor, you’ll not only see social work in action, but you’ll explore your commitment to social work values and ethics.

Field Placement Guidelines

The Tulane School of Social Work is designed to offer one field placement experience of 990 clock hours, broken into three semesters of 330 hours for full-time students and six semesters of 165 hours for part-time students.

- Field occurs concurrently with classes.
- Full-time students begin field in January and are in field 22 hours a week, MWF for three semesters.
- Part-time students begin field in their third semester and are in field 11 hours per week for six semesters.
The faculty at the Tulane School of Social Work are committed to creating new knowledge that will help others in the process. Their aim is to bring that knowledge into both the classroom and the community. Our faculty are leaders in the best practices of social services while also focusing on evidence-based approaches to interventions and organizational change.

Dr. Qingwen Xu (above)
Her research adopts a comparative perspective and focuses on analyzing the social service law and studying its relationships with other legal systems, particularly the migration system; investigating the impact of legal vulnerability on individual and family’s health and mental health; and studying people’s perception of and behavior in the community and exploring community-based interventions to improve the health and mental health outcomes among community members.

Dr. Reggie Parquet (middle)
His teaching expertise is in practice and research. Dr. Parquet’s primary research interests are in substance abuse intervention and treatment of at-risk, inner city children, families, and communities utilizing a strengths perspective and capacity building.

Dr. Charles Figley (bottom)
He is one of the world’s leading experts in trauma. Dr. Figley is editor of the oldest book series on trauma (established in 1978), the Psychosocial Stress Book Series. He has published more than 200 scholarly works, focusing primarily on traumatic stress and resiliency of individuals, families, and communities.
TULANE & NEW ORLEANS

When it comes to choosing a city where learning and cultural opportunities abound, New Orleans is among the top in the nation, and today is one of the most exciting times in New Orleans’ and Tulane’s history.

With the recovery and rebirth from Hurricane Katrina still in full swing, students and residents will see an ever-changing city, one improving with each passing day. New Orleans has a world-renowned reputation as a city with a lust for life, but Tulane and New Orleans are more than just social gathering spots. Tulane’s motto of “not for one’s self, but for one’s own” embodies our focus of working in the New Orleans community to help those in need.

STATE OF THE ART CAMPUS

The School of Social Work is located on the third and fourth floors of 127 Elk Place (right), just steps from Canal Street and the world-famous French Quarter. The school boasts nearly 20,000 square feet of learning space that was fully-renovated and updated in 2014. The state-of-the-art classrooms and lounge areas provide a comfortable atmosphere for learning and socializing while the school is accessible by both bus and streetcar.

Our campus and our city provide students with a unique learning experience in an urban setting.
Why I chose Tulane for my MSW!

“My experience at Tulane has given me a valuable learning experience both inside and outside of the classroom. The combination of class and field experience has had a profound impact on my success as a professional social worker. Thanks to my classes and field placements at Tulane, I had the knowledge and experience to make a difference in my community.”

— Susan Looney, MSW ’13

“My field education gave me the opportunity to apply my academic skills and philosophy in a real world environment while still enjoying the careful guidance of my professors, classmates and field supervisor. I learned to integrate my knowledge and values of community-centered work with the unique perspectives of local social work professionals in practice.”

— Timothy van der Veken, MSW ’09

MSW Admissions Requirements

Admission to the Master of Social Work program is highly competitive. Successful applicants are: graduates of accredited colleges and universities who have completed a well-rounded liberal arts program that included study in the humanities and social sciences. Additional requirements include:

- A grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4-point scale is preferred with a strong performance in the junior and senior years of previous study.
- Three professional references required.
- A strong written statement.

Graduate Record Exam (GRE)

- The GRE is not required for candidates with a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- Applicants with less than a 3.0 may be considered if able to document a high level of academic ability through a GRE score within the past 5 years.

Deadlines

- The application for full time admission is open on October 1.
- The deadline for all applications regardless of GPA is March 31 prior to the coming Fall semester.
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