SOCIAL WORK (PHD)

NYSED: 80105 **HEGIS:** 2104.00 **CIP:** 44.0701

Program Description

NYU Silver School of Social Work's PhD program prepares students to become leading researchers and educators in the promotion of social justice and the health and well-being of marginalized communities nationally and globally.

Our intensive doctoral training competitively positions graduates for top-tier academic and research opportunities—such as faculty positions at leading research universities—cultivating the next wave of independent investigators, scholars, and social work leaders. Building on Silver's nationally recognized strength in intervention and implementation research and our focus on addressing inequities, the PhD program prepares students to make their own unique contributions to the field of social welfare.

Our rigorous coursework educates students in classic and contemporary theory, cutting-edge quantitative, qualitative and mixed methodologies, and specialized learning in their substantive areas. The opportunity to take electives within the larger university allows students to explore further their areas and methodologies in an interdisciplinary classroom. NYU Silver also prepares students to be educators through training, including in anti-racist pedagogies, and hands-on experience teaching BSW and MSW level courses.

At the heart of our program is the mentored research practicum offering students the opportunity to put their learning into practice. NYU Silver PhD students are paired from day one with a research mentor as part of our personalized mentoring program (https://socialwork.nyu.edu/a-silver-education/degree-programs/phd/mentored-research.html), helping them develop competencies in core research, scholarship, and teaching areas. NYU Silver Faculty (https://socialwork.nyu.edu/a-silver-education/degree-programs/phd/our-faculty.html) are renowned for their expertise in several key research areas, including racial and social justice, behavioral health services, child welfare, and aging. Being part of a large Global Network University and located in the diverse and dynamic city of New York, NYU Silver offers an unparalleled environment for the study of areas critical to local, national and global well-being.

Admissions

Requirements for admission to the Social Work PhD program include:

- A master's degree (MSW is preferred) with a graduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher, based on a 4-point scale;
- A bachelor's degree with an undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher, based on a 4-point scale;
- Acceptable scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam, for applicants whose first language is not English or who have not earned a degree from an institution where the language of instruction is exclusively English. The program will accept Duolingo English test scores if applicant received a combined undergraduate and graduate education of four years where the official language of instruction of the institution was English for all course work. Test scores for TOEFL, IELTS, and Duolingo English Test are considered valid for two years.

See Admission Requirements (https://socialwork.nyu.edu/prospective-students/applying-to-silver/phd/admission-requirements.html) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 48 credits, comprised of the following:

Course	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
PHDSW-GS 3050	Philosophy of Science & Knowledge Development	3
PHDSW-GS 3059	Seminar on Social Policy History and Analysis	3
PHDSW-GS 3053	Social Science Theories and Social Work	3
PHDSW-GS 3064	Social and Behavioral Intervention Research	3
PHDSW-GS 3027	Quantitative Methods	3
PHDSW-GS 3032	Qualitative Methods	3
PHDSW-GS 3028	Introductory Statistics	3
PHDSW-GS 3067	Statistical Methods II: Generalized Linear Models	3
PHDSW-GS 3077	Conducting Research with Diverse Populations	3
PHDSW-GS 3026	Doctoral Dissertation Seminar	1
PHDSW-GS 3075	Professional Development Seminar	0
PHDSW-GS 3550	Research Practicum	0
Electives		
Select 15 elective credits by advisement		15
PHDSW-GS 3555	Doctoral Independent Study	
PHDSW-GS 3081	Internship Independent Study	
PHDSW-GS 3084	Systematic Review and Meta Analysis	
PHDSW-GS 3083	Practical Artificial Intelligence and Applications	
PHDSW-GS 3069	Structural Equation Modeling	
PHDSW-GS 3076	Implementing Evidence-Based and Evidence-Informed Practices	
PHDSW-GS 3078	Mixed Methods	
PHDSW-GS 3080	Grant Writing II	
PHDSW-GS 3079	Grant Writing I	
Career Preparation and Scholarly Impact		
PHDSW-GS 3013	Dissertation Proseminar (Dissertation Proseminar)	3
PHDSW-GS 3033	Teaching Social Work	3
Total Credits		**48**

Residency Requirement

Students are required to take 48 credits to complete the coursework phase of the PhD program. Full-time doctoral students normally take 9-12 credits of coursework in the fall and spring semesters over two to three years, as indicated on the following schedules. Students, in consultation with their faculty mentor and the PhD program office, should plan their course schedules accordingly. In addition, students must successfully complete

a supervised research practicum before the end of the coursework phase of the program.

Students who plan to register for either more or less than 12 credits for any semester during the coursework phase of the program should notify the Assistant Director of the PhD Program about the exact number of credits for which they will be registering in order to avoid problems with their account.

Additional Program Requirements
Qualifying Exam

Following the successful completion of core coursework, students must pass a comprehensive qualifying exam, which serves as an examination of what students have learned to date in the program and a determination of whether they are ready to engage in independent research. Students taking the Qualifying Exam (QE) are expected to demonstrate a thorough understanding of 1) theoretical perspectives related to the etiology, treatment, and policy of a social problem, 2) core knowledge and skills related to qualitative and quantitative research design and methods and 3) knowledge of research and policy related to their substantive area.

Dissertation Proposal

In creating a dissertation proposal, students will choose a topic or research question to study, and will form a dissertation committee based on their research area interest and faculty area of expertise. Students will submit their written proposal to the dissertation committee and arrange for an oral defense.

Dissertation

The student, in consultation with their dissertation committee, will determine the appropriate structure and form of the dissertation. All dissertations will be evaluated on the quality and clarity of the conception, writing, presentation, evidence of scholarship and systematic inquiry, originality, and significance to the field of social work. Students will submit a written dissertation and also have an oral defense of their dissertation, which is open to the public.

Note: The doctoral program does not prepare students for advanced practice in clinical social work or for licensure for social work practice in New York State. Students licensed as an LMSW or LCSW by the New York State Education Department may practice according to the guidelines of their particular license. Unlicensed students may not provide professional services in New York State unless otherwise authorized by state law.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
PHDSW-GS 3027	Quantitative Methods	3
PHDSW-GS 3050	Philosophy of Science & Knowledge Development	3
PHDSW-GS 3028	Introductory Statistics	3
PHDSW-GS 3059	Seminar on Social Policy History and Analysis	3
PHDSW-GS 3075	Professional Development Seminar	0
PHDSW-GS 3550	Research Practicum	0
	Credits	**12**
2nd Semester/Term		
PHDSW-GS 3032	Qualitative Methods	3
PHDSW-GS 3064	Social and Behavioral Intervention Research	3
PHDSW-GS 3077	Conducting Research with Diverse Populations	3
PHDSW-GS 3067	Statistical Methods II: Generalized Linear Models	3
PHDSW-GS 3075	Professional Development Seminar	0
PHDSW-GS 3550	Research Practicum	0
	Credits	**12**
3rd Semester/Term		
PHDSW-GS 3033	Teaching Social Work	3
PHDSW-GS 3053	Social Science Theories and Social Work	3
PHDSW-GS 3078	Mixed Methods	3
PHDSW-GS 3013	Dissertation Proseminar	3
	Credits	**12**
4th Semester/Term		
PHDSW-GS 3076	Implementing Evidence-Based and Evidence-Informed Practices	3
PHDSW-GS 3079	Grant Writing I	1.5
PHDSW-GS 3080	Grant Writing II	1.5
PHDSW-GS 3084	Systematic Review and Meta Analysis	3
PHDSW-GS 3083	Practical Artificial Intelligence and Applications	3
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**48**

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

1. Provide leadership in the development of knowledge in a substantive area that is important to social work practice and/or social service delivery.
2. Conduct independent research that demonstrates advanced knowledge of the methodology used, and which meets current publication standards.
3. Engage in critical analysis of clinical practice models and their underpinning theories, including evidence of empirical support.
4. Draw upon established social science theories to generate hypotheses regarding problems relevant to social work practice.
5. Critically examine social policies using established models of analysis.
6. Communicate effectively at a professional level, orally and in writing, the products of one's scholarship to diverse constituencies.
7. Compete successfully for academic positions in social work or related disciplines.

Policies
NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/).

Graduate Silver Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on the Silver Academic Policies page (https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/social-work/academic-policies/).