

# Course Sequence Options MSW Advanced Standing

Our MSW program is fully online, and you are free to pursue full- or part-time studies as you wish. For example, some students take the maximum number of courses allowed each semester to move through the program as quickly as possible while others take as few as one or two courses per semester (please contact your Financial Aid Counselor to confirm the number of credit hours required to meet your financial aid eligibility criteria). You are free to vary how many classes you take each semester as well. One of the advantages of taking additional summer classes is cost savings since summer tuition is lower than Fall or Spring tuition. So, in addition to the two options identified, there is a third and less obvious “flexible” option.

Advanced Standing students are required to complete 39 credit hours to earn the degree. Below is the suggested course sequence for Spring, Summer, and Fall starts.

As stated above, you are free to vary your schedule based on what works best for you.

## Three-semester (3) MSW program:

The three-semester M.S.W. Program is designed for students who have chosen to pursue an accelerated graduate social work degree and are prepared to matriculate on an overload full-time basis. The standard three-semester M.S.W. Program includes two semesters and one summer of courses.

## Four-semester (4) MSW program:

The four-semester M.S.W. Program is designed for students who have chosen to pursue a graduate social work degree and are prepared to matriculate on a full-time basis. The standard four-semester M.S.W. Program includes either two semesters and two summers or three semesters and one summer of courses, depending on when the student begin in the program.

## Six-semester (6) MSW program:

The six-semester M.S.W. Program is designed for students who have chosen the profession but are not prepared to matriculate on a full-time basis. The standard six-semester M.S.W. Program includes four semesters and two summers of courses.

## Prerequisites for field placement:

SWK 501 and SWK 527 are prerequisites for field placement (SWK 681 and SWK 682). Once you completed these two classes, you can start field. You don't have to wait until the last two semesters. The above schedule is just a suggestion. You have the flexibility to make changes and if you would like to take fewer classes per semester, take longer to graduate, that is fine as well. You do have up to seven (7) years to earn your degree.

## Course Scheduling Options:

Our university is on two traditional 16-week semesters (Spring and Fall) and 8-9 weeks for Summer term. Our program offers 8-week and 16-week classes for Spring and Fall, and the full 8-week term for Summer.

During the Spring and Fall semesters, not all classes are offered in the 8-week format. Most students take 16-week classes during the spring and fall semesters. Many students, however, take a 16-week class, plus two 8-week classes; one 8-week at the beginning of the semester and one for the 2nd half of the semester. Here are variations students have taken:

All 16-week classes							
OR							
One 16-week class			Two 16-week classes			One 8-week	One 8-week
		OR			OR		
One 8-week	One 8-week		One 8-week	One 8-week		One 8-week	One 8-week

**The schedule of classes is up to you, and it is flexible.** Classes that are 8-weeks in length are condensed versions of the 16-week and are intensely fast paced. If you are not used to the 8-week format, you will want to consider it carefully before enrolling. Your academic advisor can assist you with your schedule and class selections as needed.

## Guided Electives:

Approved electives for Advanced Standing students may not include foundation core coursework except for SWK 512 Professional Writing. Students should select from the list of graduate SWK electives listed on our [socialwork.wnmu.edu](http://socialwork.wnmu.edu) website or graduate level courses from related disciplines. All electives from related disciplines must be approved by the students' advisor. Graduate level courses are numbered 500 and higher.

If you start in the Spring semester:

If you wish to graduate in *three (3) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1- Spring ****</b>	<b>Semester 2** – Summer</b>	<b>Semester 3 – Fall</b>
(15 credits)	(12 credits)	(12 credits)
SWK 501 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 630 (8 wk)	SWK 620* (16 wk)
SWK 527 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 621 (8 wk)	SWK 640* (16 wk)
SWK 610 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 681 (9 to 10 wk)	SWK 682 (16 wk)
SWK 615* (16 wk)	Guided Elective	Guided Elective
Guided Elective***		

\*SWK 615, SWK 620, and SWK 640 are only offered in the Spring and Fall semesters.

\*\*Summer maximum load is 9 credits, to take 12, we need to file a petition for overload.

\*\*\* Approved electives for Advanced Standing students may not include foundation core coursework except for SWK 512 Professional Writing. Students should select from the list of graduate SWK electives listed on our [socialwork.wnmu.edu](https://socialwork.wnmu.edu) (<https://socialwork.wnmu.edu/advance/#program-information>) website or graduate level courses from related disciplines. All electives from related disciplines must be approved by the students' advisor. Graduate level courses are numbered 500 and higher.

\*\*\*\*Please note that if your entering GPA is below 3.0, number classes (credits) you can take may vary. Please speak with your advisors if you have any questions.

If you wish to graduate in *four (4) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1 – Spring</b>	<b>Semester 2 – Summer</b>	<b>Semester 3 – Fall</b>	<b>Semester 4 – Spring</b>
(12 credits)	(9 credits)	(9 credits)	(9 credits)
SWK 501 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 610 (8 wk)	SWK 620* (16 wk)	SWK 640* (16 wk)
SWK 527 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 630 (8 wk)	SWK 621 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 682 (16 wk)
SWK 615* (16 wk)	Guided Elective	SWK 681 (16 wk)	Guided Elective
Guided Elective***			

If you wish to graduate in *six (6) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1 – Spring</b>	<b>Semester 2 – Summer</b>	<b>Semester 3 – Fall</b>
(6 credits)	(6 credits)	(6 credits)
SWK 501 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 630 (8 wk)	SWK 615* (16 wk)
SWK 527 (8 & 16 wk)	Guided Elective***	Guided Elective
<b>Semester 4 – Spring</b>	<b>Semester 5 – Summer</b>	<b>Semester 6 – Fall</b>
(6 credits)	(6 credits)	(9 credits)
SWK 620* (16 wk)	SWK 610 (8 wk)	SWK 640* (16 wk)
SWK 681 (16 wk)	SWK 621 (8 wk)	SWK 682 (16 wk)
		Guided Elective

If you begin in the Summer semester:

If you wish to graduate in *three (3) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1- Summer **</b>	<b>Semester 2–Fall</b>	<b>Semester 3 – Spring</b>
(12 credits)^	(12 credits)	(15 credits)
SWK 501 (8 wk)	SWK 615* (16 wk)	SWK 620* (16 wk)
SWK 527 (8 wk)	SWK 621 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 630 (8 & 16 wk)
SWK 610 (8 wk)	SWK 681 (16 wk)	SWK 640* (16 wk)
Guided Electives***	Guided Electives	SWK 682 (16 wk)
		Guided Electives

\*SWK 615, SWK 620, and SWK 640 are only offered in the Spring and Fall semesters.

\*\*Summer maximum load is 9 credits, to take 12, we need to file a petition for overload.

\*\*\*Approved electives for Advanced Standing students may not include foundation core coursework except for SWK 512 Professional Writing. Students should select from the list of graduate SWK electives listed on our socialwork.wnmu.edu (<https://socialwork.wnmu.edu/advance/#program-information>Links to an external site.) (links currently not functioning) website or graduate level courses from related disciplines. All electives from related disciplines must be approved by the students' advisor. Graduate level courses are numbered 500 and higher.

^Please note that if your entering GPA is below 3.0, number classes (credits) you can take may vary. Please speak with your advisors if you have any questions.

If you wish to graduate in *four (4) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1 – Summer</b> (9 credits) SWK 501 (8 wk) SWK 527 (8 wk) SWK 610 (8 wk)	<b>Semester 2 – Fall</b> (12 credits) SWK 615* (16 wk) SWK 621 (8 & 16 wk) Guided Electives*** Guided Electives	<b>Semester 3 – Spring</b> (9 credits) SWK 620* (16 wk) SWK 640* (16 wk) SWK 681 (16 wk)	<b>Semester 4 – Summer</b> (9 credits) SWK 630 (9 to 10 wk) SWK 682 (9 to 10 wk) Guided Electives
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If you wish to graduate in *six (6) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1 – Summer</b> (6 credits) SWK 501 (8 wk) SWK 527 (8 wk)	<b>Semester 2 – Fall</b> (9 credits) SWK 615* (16 wk) Guided Electives*** Guided Electives	<b>Semester 3 – Spring</b> (6 credits) SWK 620* (16 wk) Guided Electives
<b>Semester 4 – Summer</b> (6 credits) SWK 621 (8 wk) SWK 630 (8 wk)	<b>Semester 5 – Fall</b> (6 credits) SWK 610 (8 & 16 wk) SWK 681 (16 wk)	<b>Semester 6 – Spring</b> (6 credits) SWK 640* (16 wk) SWK 682 (16 wk)

If you begin in the Fall semester:

If you wish to graduate in *three (3) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1- Fall ****</b>	<b>Semester 2 -Spring</b>	<b>Semester 3** – Summer</b>
(15 credits)	(12 credits)	(12 credits)
SWK 501 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 620* (16 wk)	SWK 621 (8 & 16 wk)
SWK 527 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 640* (8 wk)	SWK 630 (8 wk)
SWK 610 (8 & 16 wk)	SWK 681 (16 wk)	SWK 682 (9 to 10 wk)
SWK 615* (16 wk)	Guided Elective	Guided Elective
Guided Elective***		

\*SWK 615, SWK 620, SWK 640 are only offered in the Spring and Fall semesters.

\*\*Summer maximum load is 9 credits, to take 12, we need to file a petition for overload.

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\*\*\*Please note that if your entering GPA is below 3.0, number classes (credits) you can take may vary. Please speak with your advisors if you have any questions.

If you wish to graduate in *four (4) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1 – Fall</b> (9 credits) SWK 501 (8 & 16 wk) SWK 527 (8 & 16 wk) SWK 615* (16 wk)	<b>Semester 2 – Spring</b> (12 credits) SWK 620* (16 wk) SWK 621 (8 & 16 wk) Guided Elective*** Guided Elective	<b>Semester 3 – Summer</b> (9 credits) SWK 610 (8 wk) SWK 630 (8 wk) SWK 681 (9 to 10 wk)	<b>Semester 4 -Fall</b> (9 credits) SWK 640* (16 wk) SWK 682 (16 wk) Guided Elective
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If you wish to graduate in *six (6) semesters*, this is the suggestion for your schedule of classes:

<b>Semester 1 – Fall</b> (6 credits) SWK 501 (8 & 16 wk) SWK 527 (8 & 16 wk)	<b>Semester 2 – Spring</b> (6 credits) SWK 615* (16 wk) Guided Elective***	<b>Semester 3 – Summer</b> (6 credits) SWK 630 (8 wk) Guided Elective
<b>Semester 4 – Fall</b> (6 credits) SWK 620* (16 wk) SWK 681 (16 wk)	<b>Semester 5 – Spring</b> (9 credits) SWK 640* (16 wk) Guided Elective	<b>Semester 6 – Summer</b> (6 credits) SWK610 (8wk) SWK 621 (8 wk)

If you have questions/comments regarding our MSW program, please contact us at 575-538-6421 or email us at [MSW@wnmu.edu](mailto:MSW@wnmu.edu).