FAQ for the BSW at WNMU  
(acronym city!)  
(frequently answered questions!)

1. Are you really accredited? By CSWE? How can I know that for sure?  
Check out CSWE’s website: http://www.cswe.org/default.aspx?id=17491  
Also, check out: http://www.socialworkgradschool.com/2013/07/want-to-be-professional-social-worker.html

2. How often do I have to come to your campus? Lovely as I’m sure New Mexico is, I live really far from there!  
You don’t ever need to come to our campus. All your courses can be taken from home/work, and your practicum can be done in your area. You would need to find and recruit the supervisor, and our Field Director, Professor Leslie Cook, will take it from there.

3. Okay, I get it that I don’t have to go to campus. How does that work, then? I mean, I want to be a social worker, and work with people, not computers!  
Most of you have used Skype, or something similar. Some of our courses are like that, with some of the students in various communities across the US sitting at their own computers. Some students are in New Mexico, and go to one of our branch campuses to take classes, and they use Instructional Television.

4. How do I do my internship/field experience/practicum from a distance?  
Once a week, we have class for students in field, just like is outlined in #3 above. Your local person would work with Professor Cook to set you up with a learning contract and responsibilities, just as if you were in town with us.

5. What else can you tell me?  
Here’s a link to an interview with Dr. Walker (although it’s kind of MSW specific, it will give you a feel for us): http://www.onlinemswprograms.com/interviews/dr-beth-walker-western-new-mexico-university.html.

6. What are your online classes like?  
Pretty much like any other online class. They are a lot of work, for sure. We use a Learning Management System called Canvas, and students seem to like it.

7. This sounds pretty good. How much does it cost?  
The link below connects you to the current tuition rates, and fees as they stand right now (except that they do not include an Assessment Fee that will be implemented for Spring 2015 for students entering upper division – 300 or above – social work courses). Here’s the most up to date link: http://online.wnmu.edu/tuition/ for tuition, and here’s another one that has a little
more detail:
http://wnmu.edu/admin/businessaff/cashiers/tuition/tuitionAndFees.shtml

8. Explain the fees, please.
Typically, fees run about $50 per credit hour, of which $10 is a social work-specific fee. Those fees pay for the costs of this program, which requires a lot of outreach on our part and while that’s a lot of fun, it can be expensive. If you live in New Mexico, we’re likely to try to travel to your field placement. If not, we develop an intense relationship with you and your field instructor, which can take up resources (cost money).

9. Your website looks like residents of states that border NM get a better deal. Is that really true?
It is only true for some Arizona residents (see http://www.wnmu.edu/NewStudents/tuition/Admissions%20ARIZONA%20Tuition%20waiver.pdf), some Colorado residents (see http://www.wnmu.edu/NewStudents/tuition/Admissions%20Colorado%20TUITION%20WAIVER.pdf), some El Paso residents (see http://www.wnmu.edu/NewStudents/tuition/Admissions%20EL%20PASO%20TUITION%20WAIVER.pdf), and undergraduate students.

10. Where can I see your degree plan?
http://socialwork.wnmu.edu/bsw/

11. Do you have electives?
We do, and they are continuing to evolve. Current ones include school social work, human trafficking, social work with the military.

12. What is the deadline to apply?
If you just now found us, call Dr. Walker (575 590 4583).

13. I live abroad. Can I still take your classes?
This is one of our favorite questions. Absolutely. You just may have to get up at a very strange hour, if you have a “Skype-type” class. But almost all are now online.

14. Do you have summer classes? And are your courses that new 6-8 week schedule everybody’s using, or the regular semester?
We have summer classes that take four or eight weeks, but fall and spring have been the traditional semester, although that’s changing with spring 2015. Here’s the schedule: http://fuse.wnmu.edu:8080/webtm/sched.jsp

15. I’m on board! When can I start?
Summer semester starts June 1. Applications to the Social Work Program at WNNU must be submitted by 4/30/15,

but seriously, you don’t want to wait that long. That does require that you have applied to WNNU.
If that’s about

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call me (see below).

16. *How do I start?*

Begin by visiting [https://sapphire.wnmu.edu/wnmudad/bwskalog.P_DispLoginNon](https://sapphire.wnmu.edu/wnmudad/bwskalog.P_DispLoginNon). (Hint: it looks as if you should already have a login, but there’s a hyperlink around the middle of the page that allows you to create a username and password.) After your WNMU application is complete (takes about 10 minutes, max), visit [http://wnmu.edu/academic/sw/BSW%20Application%20Form.shtml](http://wnmu.edu/academic/sw/BSW%20Application%20Form.shtml) and begin the application process to the BSW Program (if you’ve taken SWK 101). It takes a little longer, and as above, if you just found us and need a little extension, call Dr. Walker at 575 590 4583.

17. *One last question. How do I know what books I need?*

On the electronic schedule ([http://fuse.wnmu.edu:8080/webtm/sched.jsp#SWK](http://fuse.wnmu.edu:8080/webtm/sched.jsp#SWK)), there is (almost always) a hyperlink to the textbook. Try that, first, before asking your professor – the professor doesn’t usually keep an ISBN in his or her head (smile), and it’s usually right there on the link, making it much easier to order the books.

**WNMU’s Online Admissions Application** - [https://sapphire.wnmu.edu/wnmudad/bwskalog.P_DispLoginNon](https://sapphire.wnmu.edu/wnmudad/bwskalog.P_DispLoginNon).

Please note that it looks as if you should already have login information, but in small blue letters, it asks if you’d like to create one. Do that.

**Financial Aid Application** - [http://www.wnmu.edu/financialaid/apply.shtml](http://www.wnmu.edu/financialaid/apply.shtml)

**Class Schedule** - [http://fuse.wnmu.edu:8080/webtm/sched.jsp](http://fuse.wnmu.edu:8080/webtm/sched.jsp)