



ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WELFARE

University Profile

The University of Saint Francis was founded in 1890 and has a rich heritage of offering quality education. Rooted in the Catholic and Franciscan traditions of Faith and Reason, the University of Saint Francis engages a diverse community in learning, leadership and service.

The campus has 108 acres of rolling lawns and trees with 19 buildings and four residence halls that surround beautiful Mirror Lake.

Personal attention to students is what makes a USF education so meaningful and enriching to its approximately 2,100 students.

Department of Social Work

The Department of Social Work is an autonomous department within the School of Professional Studies at the University of Saint Francis. The Department of Social Work administers the Baccalaureate of Social Work degree, the Associate of Arts in Social Welfare and the social work minor. The Associate of Arts degree in Social Welfare is considered a stepping-stone to the BSW degree. It also enables students to obtain an associate-level (two-year) degree that may be helpful to those persons already working in social service related areas or to those hoping to work in these areas at a very entry level. The associate degree is not a professional degree, but it does provide students with foundation curriculum that can lead to the BSW, which is a professional degree.

The Department of Social Work operates from the following beliefs and espouses these beliefs within all of our curricular degree offerings. Our beliefs are as follows:

1. All individuals, groups and communities are best understood in terms of their strengths as opposed to weaknesses and the goal of the social worker is to be open to identifying and working with these strengths.
2. All social work activities must be guided by principles that promote human rights and social justice.
3. All social work activities must be guided by respect for all cultures and must behave in a manner which preserves the integrity of the culture of the client, be it an individual, a group or a community.
4. Social work practitioners must study and recognize the impact of historical, geographical, economic, and social conditions upon an individual's unique circumstances.

Students in either degree program (A.A. in Social Welfare or BSW program) will be exposed to courses which will serve to broaden their understanding of human needs and social issues within a global and intercultural context. At the very heart of both degree programs is the fundamental value of promoting social justice. All coursework is designed to assist students in a quest to promote fairness and social justice so that all people have opportunities to grow, to be respected and to be treated fairly.

Major in Social Welfare

The Associate of Arts in Social Welfare provides students with an opportunity to obtain a two-year degree that leads to employment as a Social Service Technician as defined by the National Association of Social Workers. A Social Service Technician is a title reserved for entry-level employment in social service type settings.

This degree also provides students with a foundation with which to pursue further

academic work towards the BSW (baccalaureate) degree. All courses in the associate degree program transfer seamlessly into USF's BSW curriculum.

The information below provides prospective students with an overview of the program requirements for the Associate of Arts in Social Welfare. Also included is a sample course plan for the A.A. in Social Welfare and an example of the third and fourth years for those students wishing to continue on for the BSW degree.

Associate of Arts Degree in Social Welfare

General Education

Requirements: 39 credit hours

Oral and Written Communication	9
-English Composition 1 (3)	
-English Composition 2 (3)	
-Speech (3)	
Humanities	9
-Fine Art (3)	
-Literature (3)	
-Philosophy (Professional Ethics or Ethics) (3)	
Social and Behavioral Sciences	9
-Economics of Social Issues (3)	
-History (3)	
-Introduction to Psychology (3)	
Life and Physical Sciences	9
-General Biology II (3)	
-Nutrition (3)	
Computer	3
-Introduction to Computers (3)	
Religious Studies	3
-Religions East and West or other (3)	

Mathematics 3
 College Algebra (3)

Social Welfare

Professional Core: 27 credit hours

Intro. to Sociology 3
 Introduction to Social Work
 and Social Welfare 3
 Social Work Ethics 3
 Interpersonal Skills 3
 Social Welfare Policy 3
 Micro Systems 1 3
 Micro Systems 2 3
 Child Welfare 3
 Minorities, Immigrants and Refugees 3

Total Credit Hours 66

Sample Years

1 and 2 (A.A. Degree)

Year 1

Fall

Introduction to Social Work
 Speech
 English Composition 1
 Introduction to Psychology
 Introduction to Computers
 Introduction to Sociology
Credit Hours 18

Spring

Interpersonal Skills
 Social Work Ethics
 English Composition 2
 Literature
 Child Welfare
Credit Hours 15

Year 2

Fall

History
 Economics of Social Issues
 Fine Art
 Minorities, Immigrants and Refugees
 Philosophy (ethics/professional ethics)
 Micro Systems 1
Credit Hours 15

Spring

Social Welfare Policy
 Micro Systems 2
 Fine Art

Biology 2
 Religion
 College Algebra
Credit Hours 18

Total Credit Hours 66

**Articulation with BSW
 Program – Sample Years
 3 and 4 (BSW Degree)**

Year 3

Fall

Macro Systems
 Religions East and West
 Statistics
 Spanish I
 Government
Credit Hours 15

Spring

History
 Nutrition
 Human Growth and Development
 Spanish II
 Fine Art
Credit Hours 15

Year 4

Fall

Literature by Women
 Physical Education
 Social Research
 Human Behavior in the
 Social Environment
 Elective
 Elective
Credit Hours 17

Spring

Combined Practicum I & II (11)
 Combined Practicum I/II
 Seminar (2)
 Elective (2)
Credit Hours 15

**Total Credit Hours for
 Years 3 and 4 62**

Combined Total: 128 credit hours

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study.

Approximately 95 percent of undergraduate students receive financial assistance; most receive more than one type of aid. Early estimated packages are available to any student who has been admitted to the university.

All students are encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

How do I find out more?

For more information contact the Office of Admissions at 260-399-8000 or 1-800-729-4732 or visit our website at www.sf.edu.

