



During the Master of Social Work program, students will have the opportunity to strengthen and deepen their knowledge and skills in their chosen area of practice so that they may respond more effectively to social issues at the personal, family, cultural, community, and socio-political levels.

Course objectives are congruent with the overall objectives of the program, and practice experience and applied elements form an integral part of each course. Specific skill development in each student's area of interest will take place in assignments and the field practicum and thesis options.

The MSW courses and field education aim to:

- develop student leadership skills in facilitating organizational, community, and policy change
- promote critical inquiry and consider diverse perspectives
- develop student knowledge and skills to integrate an intersectional analysis and approach to social work practice
- strengthen existing partnerships with community social service and health-related agencies through collaboration on field practicums, curriculum, and student placement opportunities

Prerequisites

There are two entry points to the MSW Program.

BSW Entry – full-time, one-year professional graduate degree program offered to students with a first level social work degree from a university program accredited by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE).

Applicants must satisfy the following minimum requirements:

1. A Bachelor of Social Work degree from a recognized university with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.3 scale). Students in their final year of a BSW program are eligible to apply and may be given provisional acceptance pending completion of degree requirements by May 30 of the year of entry to the MSW program. Applicants who do not satisfy these minimum requirements are not considered further in the selection process.
2. A minimum of 1500 hours or one-year, full-time equivalent of social work-related work experience. This may be paid or volunteer work, but must not include field placement, practicums, co-op, or internship work. Experience must be clearly demonstrated through the submission of a curriculum vitae.

Enrolment is limited to 16 students. Applicants will be assessed on academic and professional readiness. Satisfying the minimum requirements will not guarantee admission.

The application deadline is January 30th each year. All application materials and supporting documents must be received by the Admissions Office on or before the deadline.

Admission Criteria

Personal Statement	50%
Curriculum Vitae	25%
References	15%
GPA	10%

Note: The School of Social Work reserves the right to interview an applicant should it be necessary to evaluate professional readiness for the program.

Non-BSW Entry – full-time, two-year graduate degree program offered to students with a complete undergraduate degree program (120 credit hours) from a recognized university and in the social sciences.

Applicants must satisfy the following minimum requirements:

1. A completed undergraduate university degree (120 credit hours) in the social sciences from a recognized university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better on the most recent 60 undergraduate credit hours is required.
2. Successful completion of two introductory social work courses, SCWK 2013 Introduction to Social Welfare and SCWK 2023 Introduction to Social Work, or evidence of completing equivalent course work.

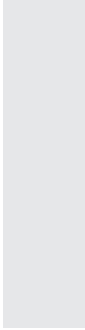
Applicants who do not satisfy these minimum requirements are not considered further in the selection process.

3. Preference will be given to applicants with a minimum of 1500 hours of one-year, full-time equivalent of social work-related work experience. This may be paid or volunteer work, but must not include field placement, practicums, co-op, or internship work. Experience must be clearly demonstrated through the submission of a curriculum vitae.

Enrolment in the two-year MSW program is limited to 16 students. Applicants will be assessed on academic and professional readiness. Satisfying the minimum requirements will not guarantee admission.

Students in the first year of the program must successfully complete all course work with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 to be able to progress to the second year.

The application deadline is January 30th each year. All application materials and supporting documents must be received by the Admissions Office on or before the deadline.



Educational Equity Admissions Policy

The School of Social Work recognizes that some applicants may experience structural barriers to education opportunities due to identification with a specific group, including stereotypical assumptions and structural disadvantages that privilege some groups over others. St. Thomas University and the School of Social Work are committed to the principles and practices supporting educational equity. The School affirms the principle that individuals from all marginalized groups should have the opportunity to learn and contribute to a more inclusive profession of social work that better reflects the diversity of Canadian society.

For the purpose of this policy, persons eligible to apply using the Equity Policy include:

- Canadian Indigenous Peoples including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit.
- Visible minority persons other than Canadian Indigenous Peoples, who because of their colour are a visible minority in Canada.
- Immigrants who are Permanent Residents and who do not record Canadian Citizenship by birth.
- Refugees that have been accepted for residence in Canada, and that left their country of origin because of persecution for belonging in a particular social, cultural, religious and/or national group or for holding particular political beliefs.
- Persons with disabilities who consider themselves as disadvantaged by reason of any physical, mental, intellectual, sensory or learning impairment.
- 2SLGBTQ+ persons that self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transsexual, two-spirited, queer or intersex.

Applicants must meet the minimum academic requirements and self-identify in the online application. Each applicant is considered individually on the basis of their qualifications, rather than in relation to other applicants.

Guidelines for Personal Statement

Your personal statement should be no more than 1,500 words, double-spaced, and in 12-point font. Please respond to the following:

- A. Describe the experiences, skills, qualities, and/or personal identities (e.g., disability status, racialized identity, gender, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, etc.) that you bring that would be helpful in working with diverse populations.
- B. Drawing from your work experience, indicate with examples what interests you about structural approaches to social work. How do you expect to learn and achieve your career goals within the context of the MSW program at St. Thomas University?
- C. Indicate your current scholarly and professional interests and how the MSW program at St. Thomas University will help you achieve these. This information will be used to inform advance practicum and thesis options.
- D. Clearly indicate whether you are applying to the thesis or advanced practicum option.

Program Regulations

