

OFF-CAMPUS MSW PROGRAM at KEARNEY

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to know of your interest in applying for graduate professional Social Work education. The University of Nebraska at Omaha School of Social Work is offering the 39-credit Advanced Standing MSW program at the University of Kearney campus beginning in the summer of 2007. We will admit up to 25 well-qualified candidates who have a BSW degree from an accredited social work program.

The MSW Program will be highly structured requiring the entire cohort of students to take courses in a clinical concentration as offered with no options. The following courses will be offered every other weekend, Friday nights from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Each three-credit course will meet for four weekends. Only one course each will be offered during the fall and spring semesters while two courses will be offered during the summer semesters. Practicum will be offered towards the end of the program and will be arranged on an individualized basis. The courses and semester offered are:

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Course</u>
Sum,2007	8190 (Research & Computer App)	Spg. 2009	8250 (Family Analysis/Treatment)
Sum,2007	8220 (Clinical SW w/Individuals)	Sum.2009	8700 (SW & Addictive Disorders)
Fall, 2007	8510 (Personnel Admin/Supervision)	Sum,2009	8950 (Res Methds in Clinical Pract)
Spg, 2008	8230 (Clinical SW w/Groups)	Fall, 2009	8240 (SW w/Children) <u>OR</u>
Sum,2008	8540 (Social Welfare Planning)		8260 (SW w/ Older Adults) <u>OR</u>
Sum,2008	8650 (SW in Health/Mental Health)		8270 (Analy/Trtmnt of Sex. Prblms) <u>OR</u>
Fall, 2008	8290 (Clinical Sem in Mental Hlth)		8280 (Marriage/Divorce/Remarriage)

SOWK 8400 & 8410 (Practicum) could start early as Fall 2008 or Spring 2009

Applying to the MSW program involves:

1. Applying for graduate admission to the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO)
2. Applying to the School of Social Work MSW program.

Applications will be accepted beginning in January, with a deadline of April 7th. We encourage you to read the School of Social Work student handbook for detailed information prior to applying to the program. The handbook and application are available on our website at: <http://socialwork.unomaha.edu>.

As noted on the application, the Admissions Committee considers all of the following criteria for admission:

Grade Point Average

1. The normal minimum admission standards are a cumulative grade point average of 3.00. Applicants with cumulative GPA under 3.0 are required to take either the Millers Analogy Test (MAT) or the Graduate Records Examination (GRE)
2. Three letters of reference.
3. A well written personal statement indicating potential for successful practice in the profession of Social Work.
4. A resume highlighting experiences in social work or a related human service field.

Thank you for your interest in applying for admission to our School.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Carlson, LCSW
Admissions Committee Chair

Enclosures

PART 1. THE UNO GRADUATE APPLICATION

You will need:

- _____ UNO application for Graduate Studies
- _____ Transcripts sent to UNO Admissions Office

Information and the application for applying for graduate studies at UNO is available on the internet at: <http://www.unomaha.edu/graduate>

PART II. THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK MSW APPLICATION

You will need:

- _____ MSW application cover sheet
- _____ Five page personal essay
- _____ Three reference letters
- _____ Resume

Your completed School of Social Work Application packet (items 1-4 below) must be mailed in one package to the School of Social Work, 60th & Dodge Streets, Annex 40, Omaha, NE 68182-0293, or brought directly to the School of Social Work. You are responsible for gathering all supporting materials and submitting them in the same envelope with the application form. You may contact the Admissions Secretary (402/554-2792) to confirm that all materials have been received.

1. **MSW Application Cover Sheet:** (see attached)
2. **Personal Profile:** This written essay allows demonstration of personal maturity, written communication skills, interest in and understanding of Social Work as a profession and appropriate self-disclosure. Please answer the following statements/questions in a total of five double-spaced, typed pages (12 pt. font).
 - a) A brief autobiographical statement that discusses who you are and the experiences that led you to social work. Trace the development of your interest in social work. Why have you chosen social work as a profession? Describe the key motivating figure(s), role model(s), or experiences(s) important to your decision to become involved in social work.
 - b) Discuss your career objectives as a professional social worker. What do you see yourself doing after receiving your MSW degree?
 - c) Discuss a contemporary social problem. Include possible causes and potential solutions in your response. What contribution do you want to make to the pursuit of social and economic justice?
 - d) In the School's criteria for admission, we assert our commitment in having students representing diverse backgrounds. Diversity is defined by virtue of: personal characteristics such as race, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, and geography, as well as life experiences such as career history, experience dealing with a significant personal challenge, belonging to or working in or among another culture, economic disadvantage, knowledge of more than one language, and/or deep broad life experiences. What evidence can you present to demonstrate your capacity to work with human diversity?

3. **Three letters of reference** from professional and/or academic persons. Include one reference from an immediate supervisor of your human service experience. The completed reference letter should be returned to you sealed with the signature of the person completing the form across the seal. If we receive a letter that has been opened, the contents will be disqualified and the application will not be reviewed. Opinions of faculty and professionals who have had official contacts with the candidates may be sought and considered in the selection process. All reference materials submitted in support of a student's admission become the property of the University and cannot be duplicated or released.

4. **Resume:** Applicants are encouraged to have experience in social work or a related human service field, and preference will be given to those applicants with experience. On your resume, highlight your work experiences that provided you with training relevant to social work practice. In addition to your human services experience, your resume should also include:
 - Educational experiences since high school
 - Academic honors or distinctions
 - Field placements, internships, or practicum's
 - Other work experiences (non social services related)
 - Other relevant experiences (i.e., volunteer work, travel beyond the U.S., publications, etc.)

OFF-CAMPUS MSW PROGRAM
AT KEARNEY

COVER SHEET

NAME: _____
Last First Middle

SOCIAL SECURITY #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: Day _____ Evening _____

CELL PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Persons applying for financial aid should do so in January. For UNO financial aid information and forms, contact: Director of Financial Aid, UNO, 103 Eppley Administration Bldg., Omaha, NE 68182-0187. Phone: (402) 554-2327 or website: <http://www.ses.unomaha.edu/finaid/>

MSW REFERENCE LETTER

APPLICANT'S NAME: _____

The above named person is applying for admission to the M.S.W. program at the School of Social Work at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Your assessment of the candidate will assist the Admissions Committee.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE APPLICANT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE WITH YOUR

Your assessment will be used solely for the purpose of determining whether or not the applicant should be admitted to the School of Social Work. After the Admissions Committee has made its decisions, all reference letters will be removed from the file and will not become part of the student's record.

- How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?

- Please indicate (√) the applicant's ability and professional competence in comparison with other individuals whom you have known at similar stages in their careers.

Rating for Qualities Below:	Exceptional Upper 5%	Excellent Upper 15%	Above Average Upper 25%	Average Upper 50%	Below Average Lower 50%	Inadequate Opportunity to Observe
General knowledge						
Knowledge in chosen field						
Originality						
Emotional stability & maturity						
Motivation and seriousness of purpose						
Ability to work with others						
Analytical skills						
Communication skills - written						
Communication skills - oral						

- Please indicate (√) your overall endorsement of the applicant:

_____ Recommend highly _____ Recommend _____ Recommend with reservation

The Admissions Committee carefully considers the statements made by reference writers who can evaluate, through direct experience, the applicant's performance and personal qualities. We are aware of the time and care required to complete a recommendation, and we gratefully acknowledge your help.

- Please give your appraisal of the applicant's ability to work with people, maturity, and emotional stability. These items would include personal, intellectual, and professional considerations. Please include both strengths and weaknesses. We would appreciate it if you would conclude your statement with any other information which would help us assess the applicant's suitability for our program. If you wish, a separate letter may be used.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE APPLICANT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE WITH YOUR SIGNATURE ACROSS THE SEAL.

Signature of person completing this form: _____ Date: _____

Name (Please type or print):

Position Title:

Place of Employment:

Address:

May we contact you for additional information on this applicant? Yes No

Your telephone number: _____

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