WHY SOCIAL WORK?

5 GREAT REASONS

1. **Opportunities to Make a Difference in the Lives of Others**
   Social work is a challenging and rewarding profession that is distinguished by its focus on "the person in environment," and because it allows you to pursue your passion for advocacy and social justice.

2. **Increasing Demand for Social Workers**
   Demand is high due to changes in U.S. demographics (particularly the aging of the population) and the emergence of new roles requiring social work knowledge and skills. 60% of mental health service providers are clinical social workers.

3. **Outstanding Job Outlook**
   Social work is one of the fastest-growing careers in the United States. The number of social work jobs is expected to grow by 16% between 2016 and 2026 – twice the average growth (7.3%) of all occupations. Social workers employed in health care is expected to grow 20%.

4. **Quickly Complete Degree & Licensing Requirements**
   - BSW degree in 4 years.
   - MSW degree in 2 years.
   - MSW degree in 1 year with a BSW degree from accredited BSW program.
   - All 50 states offer social work licensing.

5. **Flexible & Diverse Career Options**
   A degree in social work is your key to an ever-increasing array of career options. As your social work career evolves, you can easily change employers or populations served because the degree is highly respected across human service fields.

Think Social Work is for you? Consider the Southern Miss School of Social Work!

usm.edu/social-work

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WHY SOCIAL WORK?

@ SOUTHERN MISS?

Providing quality professional social work education for over 40 years.

**Both BSW and MSW Degree Programs are Available**

1. Having access to both the BSW and MSW degree programs allows BSW graduates to move smoothly and seamlessly into their graduate education program. For some it means being able to complete requirements for the MSW degree in 5 years. 36% of BSW graduates go on to earn graduate degrees.

**MSW Accredited Since 1976, BSW Since 1996**

2. Full accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education ensures your classes and internships meet national standards. Ongoing accreditation means your degree continues to have value long after you graduate.

**Courses Available on Two Campuses**

3. Courses required by both the BSW and MSW degrees are available on both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park (Long Beach) campuses of the University.

**Flexible MSW Degree Plans**

4. Because we know each student is unique, we’ve developed a 3-semester Advanced Standing Program, a 5-semester Full Time Program, and an 8-semester Part Time Program.

**Vibrant Curriculum, Field, and Faculty**

5. We offer a rich educational experience, led by a small, nurturing faculty who actively engage students in experiential learning based on "relational practice." Our face-to-face curriculum, diverse research opportunities, and affiliation with over 150 social service agencies - both in and out of state - enhance students' learning process and lead to a pass rate of 95% on the MSW Social Work Licensure Exam.

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