Why Social Work?

Social workers help people manage and overcome some of life’s most difficult challenges, such as poverty, addiction, discrimination, physical and mental illness, and abuse. They provide individual, family, and group therapy; facilitate crisis prevention and intervention; advocate and participate in political action; and collaborate with communities to develop necessary social and economic resources. Social workers are especially committed to advancing social justice and increasing opportunities for vulnerable populations.

Financing Your Education

Grants, scholarships, loans, and company reimbursement are among the financial aid opportunities that may be available to help you complete your degree. We’re committed to helping you understand and find resources for the costs of pursuing your education.

For the most current financial aid information, contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Student Financial Services at (626) 815-4570 or gpc@apu.edu, or visit apu.edu/gpc/sfs/. MSW scholarship information is available at apu.edu/msw/grants/.

Take the Next Step

You can make a difference every day as a social worker. Learn more about our program, including admissions requirements, curriculum, and program faculty, at apu.edu/msw/.

You may also contact director of student services Karen Maynard at (877) MSW-9995 or kmaynard@apu.edu.

Application deadlines

Early Admission and Advanced Standing: January 15
Regular Admission: March 1

Submit all application materials to:
Graduate and Professional Center, Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions
Azusa Pacific University, PO Box 7000, Azusa, California 91702-7000
Fax: (626) 815-4571  •  gpadmissions@apu.edu

The decision to pursue my MSW degree at APU was probably the best decision I could have made for my education and career. Not only did APU offer exceptional academic and internship experiences, it also provided me with many opportunities to learn about myself and continue my personal growth. The support I received from my cohort and the professors helped me to be confident in my internship and led me to my current job. Looking back, I now understand why God wanted me to be at APU.

Audrey Tuey, MSW ’13
Assessment and Referral Specialist
Canyon Ridge Hospital

School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences

Master of Social Work (MSW)
Choose Your Specialization

After taking foundation-level coursework—or, in the case of Advanced Standing students, bridge coursework—MSW students progress to curriculum in one of the following specializations:

Clinical Practice with Individuals and Families
This specialization prepares students for clinically oriented practice with individuals and families in contexts such as mental health clinics, shelters, group homes, child welfare, hospice, schools, correctional institutions, and other settings where personal helping relationships are developed. Specific emphasis is placed on advanced clinical practice skills with children, adolescents, adults, families, and older adults; group therapy skills; and policies specific to health and mental health concerns.

Community Leadership and Program Administration
This specialization prepares students to provide leadership in nonprofit agencies, government programs, and policy and advocacy organizations in a variety of local and global contexts. Drawing on the significant cultural diversity characterizing the Los Angeles area, and the expertise of faculty, the curriculum prepares students to be proactive leaders and to collaborate with communities to improve upon the complex local, national, and international social problems they encounter. Curriculum content in this specialization includes organizational behavior and management, program planning and evaluation, organizing for community change, human rights and social policy, and research methods for data-driven change. There is also an optional emphasis in international social work.

Program at a Glance

**Choose Your Format**

Azusa Pacific offers a traditional MSW and an Advanced Standing option, both of which are available in full- and part-time formats. The Advanced Standing option allows outstanding Bachelor of Social Work graduates to complete the Master of Social Work program at an accelerated rate, requiring fewer units than the traditional MSW program but more internship hours per week. Internship hours are on weekdays, during traditional work hours.

**Program at a Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional</th>
<th>Advanced Standing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full time</td>
<td>Full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two years (60 units)</td>
<td>Ten months (36 units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes two days per week</td>
<td>Internship 20 hours per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship 16 hours per week</td>
<td>For graduates of CSWE-accredited BSW programs only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part time</td>
<td>Part time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four years (60 units)</td>
<td>Two years (36 units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes one evening per week and a few Saturdays</td>
<td>Classes one evening per week and a few Saturdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship 16 hours per week (years two and four only)</td>
<td>Internship 20 hours per week (second year only)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Career Opportunities**

Graduates of the MSW program have many career options from which to choose, as social workers provide services in a variety of professional settings, including:

- Mental health agencies
- Schools
- Counseling centers
- Child welfare agencies
- Adoption/foster agencies
- Hospitals
- Permanency housing programs
- **Intensive In-Home Therapist**
- **Metropolitan State Hospital**
- **California Department of Mental Health**
- **Fundament**
- **Healthcare**
- **Social Services**
- **Counseling**
- **Addictions/recovery**
- **Internship 20 hours per week (second year only)**
- **For graduates of CSWE-accredited BSW programs only**

**Program Highlights**

- Wide range of internship opportunities in the Greater Los Angeles area
- Strong clinical training with interdisciplinary knowledge base
- Diverse faculty-mentors with extensive experience in numerous settings
- Professional leadership development
- Full- and part-time options
- Faith integration relevant to social work practice
- Small class sizes
- **Wide range of internship opportunities in the Greater Los Angeles area**
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- **Professional leadership development**
- **Full- and part-time options**
- **Faith integration relevant to social work practice**
- **Small class sizes**

**Accreditation:**

CSWE, WSCUC
(formerly WASC)

**Location:**

AZUSA (main campus)

My experience at Azusa Pacific University was wonderful. APU faculty really cared about providing students with a high-quality education and internship. The knowledge and skills I gained at APU have been invaluable to me in my current profession as a clinical social worker. I appreciate my education at APU and recommend the program to others.

Jesse J. Montes, MSW '10, LCSW
Metropolitan State Hospital
California Department of Mental Health

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APU has developed a strong MSW program that pushed me to my full potential in the field of social work at both micro and macro levels. The faculty provided a genuine sense of guidance and support that I will never forget. I have grown as a social worker and developed confidence behind my clinical skills, which allowed me to obtain my current employment prior to graduation.

Ruben Lara, MSW '13, LMSW
Intensive In-Home Therapist
KVC Health Systems, Topeka, Kansas

In all honesty, no course can fully prepare you for everything you'll experience once you're out in the field, but I was given enough knowledge and tools to begin my social work journey in a management position right out of APU! I now run a homeless prevention program and supervise staff, interns, and volunteers. I love what I do daily, and am so grateful for the education and supportive faculty at APU.

Pamela Dong, MSW '13
Coordinator of Family Services
The Salvation Army, Orange County