SOCIAL WORK, MASTER OF (M.S.W.)/AGING STUDIES, CERTIFICATE IN (POST-BACCALAUREATE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE) [COMBINED]

Program accreditation
Council on Social Work Education (M.S.W.)

The School of Social Work in cooperation with the Department of Gerontology of the School of Allied Health Professions at VCU provides students with a unique educational opportunity in social work and gerontology. Master of Social Work students interested in work with elders or in gerontological programs may earn a Certificate in Aging Studies while completing the master’s degree requirements.

In order to meet the requirements of the M.S.W. degree and the Certificate in Aging Studies, students complete a total of 65 graduate credit hours. All foundation and concentration courses of the Master of Social Work Program are completed, and core courses (nine credit hours) of the Certificate in Aging Studies Program are completed. Other requirements are met by (1) completion of M.S.W. research courses in which students undertake a project focused on aging, (2) completion of second-year field instruction practicum requirements (six credit hours) in a social work setting related to aging and (3) completion of an independent study course in gerontology, which integrates research and practicum courses.

See the individual program pages for specific admission requirements, application deadlines, program goals, student learning outcomes, degree requirements and graduation requirements for the M.S.W. and Certificate in Aging Studies degree programs.

Apply online at graduate.admissions.vcu.edu (http://www.graduate.admissions.vcu.edu).

Application process
Students must meet the admission requirements of the Master of Social Work program of the School of Social Work and of the Certificate in Aging Studies program in the Department of Gerontology. Admission into one program does not guarantee admission into the other.

Additional information may be obtained from the websites listed above or either of the following offices:

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of Allied Health Professions
Department of Gerontology
P.O. Box 980228
Richmond, VA 23298-0228
Attention: M.S.W.-Gerontology Certificate Adviser

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of Social Work
P.O. Box 842027
Richmond, VA 23284-2027
Attention: M.S.W.-Gerontology Certificate Adviser

Curriculum requirements
Students must complete the M.S.W foundation curriculum or the advanced standing format and the concentration curriculum (either clinical practice or SWAPPP), including the following social work courses and the additional following courses from the Department of Gerontology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRTY 601</td>
<td>Biological and Physiological Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRTY 602</td>
<td>Psychology of Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRTY 605</td>
<td>Social Science Research Methods Applied to Gerontology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRTY 692</td>
<td>Independent Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
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Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SLWK 706 &amp; SLWK 707</td>
<td>Research for Clinical Social Work Practice I and Research for Clinical Social Work Practice II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLWK 714 &amp; SLWK 715</td>
<td>Research for Social Work Administration, Planning and Policy Practice I and Research for Social Work Administration, Planning and Policy Practice II</td>
<td>6</td>
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Select one of the following:

<table>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SLWK 793 &amp; SLWK 794</td>
<td>Concentration Field Instruction I and Concentration Field Instruction II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLWK 795</td>
<td>Concentration Block Field Instruction</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Six credit hours of the GRTY courses will count toward your concentration electives

Total Hours: 29

Total number of graduate credit hours required (minimum) to complete the Certificate in Aging Studies for students in the M.S.W. program 29

Graduate program director
Melissa L. Abell, Ph.D.
M.S.W. program director
Email: mlabell@vcu.edu
Phone: (804) 828-2007

Graduate program director
E. Ayn Welleford, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Gerontology
Email: ewellefo@vcu.edu
Phone: (804) 828-1565

Program websites: socialwork.vcu.edu (http://www.socialwork.vcu.edu) and sahp.vcu.edu/gerontology (http://www.sahp.vcu.edu/gerontology)