The Clinical Social Work (CSW) Concentration is designed to move students from a basic understanding of general social work direct practice to an advanced level of knowledge and application of clinical social work skills in behavioral health settings.

Visit our website:
www.uky.edu/socialwork

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Foundation Courses (21 hours)
- Practice with Individuals
- Practice with Families
- Practice with Groups
- Foundation Practicum
- Research Methods
- Ethics
- Social Welfare Policy

Bridge Courses (6 hours)
These courses are designed to respond to the practical reality that substance misuse and mental health challenges impact social work practice with all types of client populations in all types of practice settings.
- Substance Misuse
- Psychopathology

Clinical Social Work (27 hours) focuses on applied clinical decision-making, advanced assessment and study of psychopathology, and the development and utilization of empirical evidence in the design and delivery of clinical services
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Advanced Practicum I & II
- Assessment and Treatment
- Advanced Psychopathology
- Treatment Modalities
- Advanced Research
- Clinical Decision Making

Dynamic concentration courses include:
Clinical Decision Making provides the foundation for decision and judgment processes necessary for effective clinical social work practice.

Advanced Psychopathology builds on knowledge acquired through the bridge psychopathology course. It is designed to develop an advanced understanding of diagnostic classifications, criteria, etiologies and natural histories of disorders and social work treatments for disorders.

Assessment and Treatment Planning prepares the social worker to conduct structured, semi-structured and observational clinical assessments of adults, children, families and groups. Special attention is paid to diagnostic assessments, substance use evaluations, lethality assessments, motivational interviewing, and other evidence-based and evidence-informed approaches.

CSW Advanced Research builds on the introductory research class designed to study the processes of research in enhancing social work knowledge and developing effective social work practice. Focuses on clinical research methodologies and designs used to evaluate practice and inform the selection of assessment and intervention strategies.

Comparative Treatment Modalities builds on previous content related to clinical decision-making, psychopathology and clinical assessment, and is designed to: 1) apply a range of intervention theories to children, adults, families and groups, 2) facilitate the student’s capacity to conduct a comparative analysis of the approaches across common, conceptual, clinical, cultural and ethical domains, and 3) to provide the forum for a critique of each approach using the latest empirical evidence on efficacy and effectiveness.

Evidence Based Practice offers an intensive study of three evidence-based practices: 1) adult, 2) children, and 3) group intervention. It is designed to increase the social worker’s familiarity with evidence-based practices for social work treatment of mental health disorders.

CSW Field Practicum prepares students for advanced-level social work practice in public and private settings. Students work in community-based agencies that provide services to individuals (children, adolescents, adults, and/or older adults) and families. Students perform a variety of tasks including assessment, case management, psycho-education, individual, group and family-based interventions.