

Fall 2008

MSW, MSW/MPH & MSW/JD PROGRAMS

This memo provides registration instructions as well as information about new student orientation for fall 2008. Two year MSW students will begin their field practicum internship this fall. Please refer to the MSW I Field Practicum Application Packet and form for further instructions and required deadlines.

Entering 3 & 4 year MSW, MSW/MPH, and MSW/JD students do not start their field practicum internship until their second year, next Fall 2009. Please refer to the MSW I social work 650 field application policies located on the social work website <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu>

The first day of classes for Fall 2008 is September 2, 2008 .

SDSU WEB PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS (web registration)

Registration usually starts mid-late July each year through a web registration process called Web Portal. If you do not get your desired schedule, keep trying because classes do become available at various times during the registration process. Soon after you are formally admitted to the University, you will receive registration information from SDSU Admissions and Records. The fall 2008 schedule of classes will soon be available on the University's web site (www.sdsu.edu) -- go to "current students" and "SDSU On-Line."

COURSE SEQUENCE

Since all courses are offered in sequence only, and not every semester, you need to follow the pattern as outlined here. In future semesters please check the Graduate Student Handbook, the glass cabinet outside of Hepner Hall 119, or Social Work Homepage to determine which classes to register for each semester <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu> . *You will not receive another written notice like this for registration.* All classes are on the semester system, are held once a week and all times are based on a 24-hour clock (0800=8:00 a.m., 1900=7:00 p.m.). Only courses numbered 500, 600 or 700 are graduate level. **NO COURSES BELOW 500 MAY BE USED IN THE MSW PROGRAM.**

TWO YEAR MSW PROGRAM

If you will be a two-year student, please register for all of the five following courses. Please see the schedule for class time and section number. Do not leave any out.

1. SW 601 Social Welfare Policies and Services
2. SW 619 Human Behavior and Social Environment
3. SW 630 Social Work Practice: A Generalist Perspective
4. SW 650 Field Practicum
5. SW 690 Research Methods / Computer

Three Year MSW Program

If you will be a three-year MSW student, please register for the following two courses for a total of 6 units:

1. SW 601 Social Welfare Policies and Services
2. SW 619 Human Behavior and Social Environment

Four year MSW Program

If you will be a four-year MSW student, please register for the following two courses for a total of 6 units:

1. SW 601 Social Welfare Policies and Services
2. SW 619 Human Behavior and Social Environment

MSW/MPH Program

Students admitted to the joint MSW/MPH Program, (Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health) need to register for the five classes below for the first semester of the joint program.

1. SW 601 Social Welfare Policies and Services
2. SW 619 Human Behavior and Social Environment
3. PH 602 Biostatistics
4. PH 640 (Prerequisite for PH 647)
5. PH 641 Health Care Delivery

To enroll in PH 602 – Biostatistics, a core requirement for MPH degree, students are required to demonstrate prior academic preparation in elementary statistics. A memo will be mailed to you by the School of Public Health on specific information on how to demonstrate your competency in statistics.

Entering MSW/MPH students do not start their Field Internship Practicum until Fall 2009 and will be required to attend the MSW I field placement orientation meeting in February/March 2009. A notice of the placement orientation meeting will be provided to you via e-mail.

Fall 2008 advising for MSW/MPH students will be handled by Dr. Alma Koch for issues specific to the Graduate School of Public Health, and Dr. Lucinda Rasmussen for Social Work issues. Please note that neither Dr. Rasmussen nor Dr. Koch will be on campus in the summer and cannot be reached until the week of August 25.

MSW/JD Program

MSW/JD students who have completed their first year of Law School will start a Field Practicum (Internship) in Fall 2008. MSW/JD students enroll in the following courses of the first semester of the two year MSW Program: SW601, SW619, SW630, SW650 (Internship) and SW690. MSW/JD students who will be starting their first year of Law School must set up a meeting with the Social Work MSW/JD Advisor, Dr Dan Finnegan. You will be required to

attend the Field Practicum Orientation in February or March 2009. A notice of the placement orientation meeting will be provided to you via e-mail.

Transfer Students

If you are an accepted **TRANSFER** student going into your second year with graduate credits from another School of Social Work, you will need to complete the field application MSW II – 750, which can be found on the social work website. Please contact the Student Affairs Coordinator for an individualized schedule adjustment (619) 594-5710 (email: emaruche@mail.sdsu.edu). In the fall you must meet with Dr. Lucinda Rasmussen, Graduate Advisor, for final verification of your schedule. Please do this in the first two weeks of the semester in order to leave ample time to add or drop classes. Dr. Lucinda Rasmussen will not be on campus until the week of August 25.

ADD/DROP Period

If you should not receive the classes of your choice, it may be possible to add them during the first two weeks of school during the add/drop period.

Waiver Examination

FOR SW601 (POLICY), SW619 (HUMAN BEHAVIOR) & SW690 (RESEARCH)

Students admitted to the graduate Social Work program with a 3.0 GPA may be eligible to take a waiver examination. The following conditions must be met.

- ❖ *The student must hold a baccalaureate degree in Social Work from an accredited Social Work program or a major from a closely related field.*
- ❖ *The student must have achieved a grade of B or better in the course in which the waiver examination is to be taken, i.e., social Policy, Human Behavior in the Social Environment, and Social Research.*

Majors from closely related fields may take the waiver exams if they have had comparable courses with a grad of B and above. Students are responsible for providing documentation, e.g., syllabus, course outline, etc., to demonstrate course comparability, knowledge and proficiency. The Student Affairs Coordinator will administer the waiver examinations.

Students must receive a grade of at least a B to pass examinations. Names will be removed to maintain objectivity. One faculty from the content area will grade the exam. If the grade is not a passing one, a second reader will review the exam. If this grade is different from the first, a third review will take place.

If you are successful in the examination, you will not have to repeat these courses in the graduate program, but you will have to take an elective course for each of the courses waived. Even if you plan to take the examinations, you must register for all classes as indicated in the instructions. Those you may have waived can be dropped and electives substituted during the

first week of classes. The exam will be given the first week of school in the Fall semester. The exact time and location will be announced at the orientation in August. To place your name on the exam list, please contact the Student Affairs Coordinator at the School of Social Work (Elizabeth Donahue- Marucheu, LCSW, BCD, at emaruche@mail.sdsu.edu).

Title IV-E Public Child Welfare Stipend Program

Decisions on the IV-E stipends are in process and are anticipated for completion by April 1, 2008. You will be notified by the Title IV-E office of the status of your review.

Conditional Status

If you have been admitted on a conditional status, the conditions under which you were admitted must be met before you attain classified status. You must be classified to graduate.

Communications

Graduate Student Handbooks are available for students in the “current students” section of the School of Social Work Home page. The Graduate Student Handbook Field Practicum Manual is currently being revised. You may download the graduate bulletin (catalog) at <http://coursecat.sdsu.edu/bulletin/> . You may also obtain information about the University (including the entire Graduate Bulletin) by going to the Internet/www address: www.sdsu.edu, for social work home page go to the alphabetical listing of departments, click “S” and go to social work.

Verification & Change of Status

If we do not receive your verification of attendance we will not be able to hold a place for you in the program. If the verification is not received by the due date you may not be eligible for Field Practicum (Internship) in the Fall of 2008. We do not anticipate any openings in the 2-year program, however it may be possible to change your status from the two-year program to the 3 or 4-year programs. If you are requesting a change you must complete the “Change of Status Form”. Your request will be reviewed by faculty and a determination will be made.

Advising

Starting effective August 25, 2008, Dr. Lucinda Rasmussen will provide Graduate Advising. Dr. Dan Finnegan, Associate Director, and Liz Marucheu, LCSW, BCD, Student Affairs Coordinator, provide advising on a part time basis during the summer. Please contact the main office at the school of social work to obtain an advising appointment 619-594-6865 or E-mail: socwork@mail.sdsu.edu

Orientation

The MSW Orientation will be held on August 26, 2008 in Hepner Hall 130 from 8:30AM-11:30AM for all new students.

- If you are entering SW 650, Field Practicum in fall 2008, attendance in Field Practicum Orientation Lab I is mandatory.

If you are not entering field in fall 2008, you need only attend the MSW orientation. If you are entering field, the student attends both the MSW Orientation and Field Practicum Orientation Labs.

- **MSW/MPH ORIENTATION:** Joint students will also have (in addition to the social work orientation) a separate orientation for the School of Public Health. Please contact Brenda Fass-Holmes in the School of Public Health to determine the date of the Public Health Orientation, bholmes@mail.sdsu.edu or 619-594-4492.
- **GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION SPONSORED BY THE “GRADUATE AND RESEARCH AFFAIRS OFFICE:** The Graduate and Research Affairs Office, The Graduate Student Organization and Student Affairs will be sponsoring a New Graduate Students Orientation on August 27, 2008. An invitation will be mailed to all new graduate students. For questions contact the Graduate Division at 619-594-5213 or via email at GRA@mail.sdsu.edu.

PARKING INFO AND DIRECTIONS

Directions to Hepner Hall: Take the College Ave Exit off of Interstate 8 and go south. Turn right at Canyon Crest (the second stop light) and follow the road to the top of the hill. Stay on the road until you come to a stop sign (you will see a big construction project for the new trolley extension at SDSU) turn right. Park in the 8-story structure in front of you known as PS4 – student parking is on level 4-8. Once in the parking structure 4, go to level 4. Cross the bridge to get on campus and go through the West Commons. There is an elevator to the left at the bottom of the hill leading up to the main campus. Take the elevator or walk up the hill. Hepner Hall will be on your left as you reach the top of the hill. The main social work office is in Hepner Hall 119; the orientation is in Hepner Hall 130. For additional information on parking or directions please call the parking office at 619-594-6671 or call the University automated system for general information on directions (619) 594-0502 OR CONSULT THE UNIVERSITY WEBSITE: www.sdsu.edu

OBTAIN PARKING PASS: I

In order to Park PS4 you must purchase your SDSU parking pass in advance at the cashier's office. You will need your parking pass to park without getting a ticket. If you don't have your pass you will have to park in a visitor parking lot (PS5 or PS6) off College Avenue and pay the meter fee.

ADVISED TO BRING SWEATER/JACKET

The orientation rooms might be chilly due to the air conditioning – be advised to bring a jacket or sweater.