

## USU BSW -FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Q: Is the BSW Program at USU accredited?**

Yes. Our program is accredited by the Counsel on Social Work Education (CSWE).

### **Q: How do I declare or change my major to social work?**

Come into the *Social Work office (Main 239)* and fill out a *change of matriculation form*. This form must be signed by Dr. Peak or Dr. Calloway-Graham. After the form is completed it must be turned into the Registrar's Office.

### **Q: When do I apply for the Social Work Program?**

Students apply for the social work program during the spring semester (beginning of March). You must have completed, or in the process of finishing prerequisite courses to be able to apply. Most students apply during the semester they take SW 2100 & 2400.

### **Q: What is involved in applying to the social work program?**

- Completion of prerequisites & university requirements
- Junior Status (60-90 credits by the end of the application year)
- Minimum of 2.5 cumulative GPA
- Unofficial transcript
- Completion of the APT exam with a grade of 70% or better
- An essay following the outlined questions

### **Q: What electives are available in the department & how many do I need to take?**

Child Welfare, Adolescents, School Social Work, Social Gerontology, Mental Health, Medical Social Services, Spirituality in Social Work, Directed Readings.

Keep in mind that these courses are not taught every year.

One upper-division elective (3000 or above) can be taken outside of Social Work in a related field (FCHD, Psychology, Sociology, or Anthropology).

### **Q: How many credits do I need to graduate?**

The university requires 120 credits to be able to graduate

### **Q: Tell me about the Practicum**

The practicum will take place during your senior year. The practicum is a time to apply the knowledge gained in social work courses as you work at an agency with clients. Students spend at least 16 hours per week working at the agency. During the spring semester of junior year, all juniors attend a practicum buffet in which you can meet with different agencies, current practicum students, and their supervisors to learn

about that particular placement. From there, you will meet with the Practicum Director for a brief interview. The Practicum Coordinators then make decisions about the agency placement for each student. Students usually find out their placement the week after spring break.

**Q: What do I do if I have further questions?**

See a peer advisor. For Spring 09, they have open office hours throughout the week. Office hours vary days of the week, but they will be posted in the social work office.

**Q: Are there any student clubs for social work students?**

On campus, we have a student chapter of **NASW** (National Association of Social Workers). Membership applications is available in the social work office (Main 239) and a small fee (\$10.00) is required in order to cover the costs of food, activities, and service projects. As a member of NASW, you can participate in a number of service projects (food drive, raising awareness, etc.), educational brown bags, and socials (opening, holiday, bowling). It is a lot of fun and a great way to get to know students & faculty.

Juniors & seniors in the social work program are eligible to become members of the **Phi Alpha Honor Society**. This organization seeks to provide a closer bond among social work students and to promote humanitarian goals & ideals. A 3.25 GPA, \$25 fee, and 40 hours of community service are required for this organization.