GSSWSR
2018–19
Handbook and Catalog
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contact and Website Information .................................. 3
Accreditation .................................................................... 3
About GSSWSR ............................................................... 4
Vision and Mission ........................................................... 4
A Proud History for a Distinctive Future ............................ 4
Our Students ................................................................. 5
Admissions and Application Information ............................ 6
GSSWSR Information Days .............................................. 6
Career Changers Program .................................................. 6
International Students ..................................................... 6
Yellow Ribbon Program ..................................................... 6
Transfer Credit ................................................................... 7
Waiver Examinations (MSS Program Only) ......................... 7
MSS Application Information ............................................. 8
MSS Program ................................................................... 11
MSS Advanced Standing ................................................... 12
MSS Curriculum ............................................................... 12
MSS Sample Plans of Study .............................................. 14
Field Education ................................................................. 19
Additional Academic Opportunities for MSS Students .......... 21
Center for Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) ................ 21
CFWB Junior Fellows Program ........................................... 21
Home And School Visitor Certificate ................................ 21
Child Welfare Education for Leadership ............................ 22
Social Work and Law Certificate ........................................ 22
Organizational Behavior and Management Certificate (OBM) 23
OBM Organizational Project Approval Form ......................... 25
Dual Degree MSS/MPH Program ....................................... 26
MSS Fellowship Funds .................................................... 27
MSS Fellowship Funds Form ............................................. 28
Named Scholar Opportunities .......................................... 29
Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (PhD) ......................... 30
PhD Reimbursement Form ................................................ 33
Student Expectations, Rights, and Responsibilities ................. 34
Equality of Opportunity ................................................... 34
Standards of Professional Behavior .................................... 34
Ethics ............................................................................. 35
Privacy of Student Records .............................................. 35
Directory Information ...................................................... 35
Communication ............................................................... 35
Student Organizations at GSSWSR ................................. 36
Student Club Application Form ......................................... 37
Student Participation on Committees .................................. 38
Attendance Policy ............................................................ 38
Class Communication ....................................................... 38
Class Cancellation Policy and Procedures ............................ 38
School Policy on Observation of Religious Holidays ............. 39
Student Support ............................................................... 40
Access Services ............................................................... 40
Advising ......................................................................... 40
Career Development Services .......................................... 41
Center for Professional Development ................................. 42
Professional Liability Coverage ........................................ 43
Student Health Insurance ................................................ 43
Summer Academic Workshop Program .............................. 43
Writing Lab ..................................................................... 43
Additional School and College Resources ......................... 44
Campus Safety ............................................................... 44
Student ID Cards ............................................................. 44
Parking ............................................................................ 44
Safe Rides ...................................................................... 44
Lost And Found .............................................................. 44
Libraries ......................................................................... 45
Special Collections ........................................................ 45
Special Research Resources ............................................. 46
Information Technology .................................................. 46
Campus Center ............................................................... 46
Language Learning Center ............................................... 46
Schwartz Fitness and Athletic Center ................................. 46
Academic Policies and Procedures ..................................... 48
Registration ................................................................. 48
University of Pennsylvania Reciprocal Plan ....................... 48
Collaboration with the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences 48
Add/Drop ....................................................................... 49
Wait Lists ....................................................................... 49
Auditing and Overload Courses ....................................... 49
Independent Study and Master’s Papers ............................ 49
Evaluating Student Performance ....................................... 50
Plagiarism ....................................................................... 50
Grading and Mutual Accountability .................................... 50
Academic Advisor Role .................................................... 51
Equal Opportunity

Bryn Mawr College is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all members of its faculty, staff and student body. Bryn Mawr College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age or disability in the administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other College-administered programs, or in its employment practices.

In conformity with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is also the policy of Bryn Mawr College not to discriminate on the basis of sex in its employment practices, educational programs or activities. The admission of only women in the Undergraduate College is in conformity with a provision of the Civil Rights Act. The provisions of Title IX protect students and employees from all forms of illegal sex discrimination, which includes sexual harassment and sexual violence, in College programs and activities.

Inquiries regarding compliance with this legislation and other policies regarding non-discrimination may be directed to the Equal Opportunity Officer (eoo@brynmawr.edu or 610-526-7630) or the Title IX Coordinator (titleix_coordinate@brynmawr.edu or 610-526-7630), who administer the College's procedures.
GSSWSR CONTACT AND WEBSITE INFORMATION

Campus Safety/Emergency Contact Information

From an on-campus phone line or phone box: x7911. Off-campus: (610) 526-7911.
If off-campus and police assistance is required, dial 911.

Mailing Address

Bryn Mawr College
Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research
300 Airdale Road
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-1646

Telephones

(610) 520-2600 (Main)
(610) 520-2601 (Field Education)
(610) 520-2602 (Professional Development and Home & School Visitor Program)
(610) 520-2603 (Dean’s Office)

School’s website www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork

Information Regarding:

• Academic calendars, class schedules, registration procedures: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/current-students/academic-information
• Accommodations for students with disabilities: www.brynmawr.edu/access-services
• Admissions: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/admissions
• Career development services: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/people/career-services
• Computers, labs, and technological resources: www.brynmawr.edu/computing/
• Field Education: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/field-education
• Financial aid, student billing, refunds and student loans: www.brynmawr.edu/financial-aid
• Health Center and health insurance: www.brynmawr.edu/healthcenter
• Libraries and special collections: www.brynmawr.edu/library
• Professional Development: www.brynmawr.edu/swprodev

Other Resources

Bryn Mawr College Switchboard: Bryn Mawr College Website:
(610) 526-5000 www.brynmawr.edu

Accreditation

Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research remains fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), receiving reaccreditation from June, 2016 — June, 2024. CSWE is the nonprofit national association of social work education programs that establishes curricular and administrative criteria for undergraduate and graduate programs in social work, recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation.

This handbook and catalog is organized according to CSWE’s Educational Policy*; i.e., those elements that constitute an integrated curriculum design. Therefore, in addition to the School’s mission and vision, the catalog includes information about the “explicit curriculum,” program structure and courses. It also includes information about the “implicit curriculum,” policies and practices that guide social interaction and govern program conduct.

*(CSWE Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards, Copyright 2008, Rev. March 27, 2010/ Updated August 2012.)
ABOUT OUR BRYN MAWR COLLEGE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

Like Bryn Mawr College as a whole, the GSSWSR is distinctive for its dedication to fine teaching, attentiveness to individual students, and high academic standards within a liberal arts tradition. Founded in 1915, the GSSWSR has from inception embraced scholarship, practice, and collaboration within a broad construction of social work and social welfare.

Vision

The GSSWSR aspires to promote social justice and wellbeing through a variety of trans-disciplinary approaches to scholarship and practice, appropriate to the complexity of social work and social welfare in the United States and internationally.

Mission

The mission of our GSSWSR is to prepare students to work with diverse groups across disciplinary and professional boundaries, and to flexibly apply their knowledge and skills across a wide range of settings for Social Work practice, education, and research. We value a critical understanding of social responsibility and purposeful, reasoned, and imaginative action in pursuit of a just and democratic world. Through its MSS and PhD degree programs and continuing professional education, our School and MSS program in particular, purposefully educates Social Workers for advanced agency-based practice, independent practice, and leadership positions in the human services field. Through its courses and field-based learning, we prepare students to place their work within theoretical frameworks that support activities of assessment, intervention and evaluation, and stress facility with knowledge, skills, and values. Our School expects students to think conceptually, act ethically, and systematically process socially just practice. To that end, we develop and execute a master’s level education with an explicit and implicit curriculum that addresses 21st Century societal issues with the goal of evidencing the nexus of theory and practice informed by an understanding of the diversity of the human experience. Through master’s concentrations in both micro and macro-direct Social Work practice and in our doctoral program, we continue to embrace and incorporate the College’s liberal arts education and its contributions in addressing human needs, as we also create and sustain mutually beneficial and transformative partnerships locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

A Proud History for a Distinctive Future

Social Work was woven into the very fabric of Bryn Mawr College since it first opened its doors in 1885. Founded by Joseph Wright Taylor, a Quaker physician who wanted to establish a college for the advanced education of women, the College soon became nondenominational but continued to be guided by Quaker values, including the freedom of conscience and a commitment to social justice and social activism. In fact, the Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research was established through a bequest in 1912 from an undergraduate alumna of the College, Carola Woerishoffer, who at the time of her death at age 25 was investigating factory conditions for the New York Department of Labor. Her gift of $750,000 (over $18 million in today’s dollars) was the largest gift the College had received at that time, and was made so that others would be prepared to engage in social work; the then new field to which Carola Woerishoffer had committed herself.

The School opened in 1915 as the Department of Social Economy and Social Research. As part of the Bryn Mawr College academic community, the department’s faculty, staff, and students came to place great emphasis on critical, creative, and independent habits of thought and expression as well as an unwavering commitment to democratic principles of social justice. The department was the first social work program affiliated with an accredited college or university in the United States.

In 1919, the department became one of the six charter members of the American Association of Schools of Social Work, the predecessor accrediting body to the Council on Social Work Education, and has been accredited on a continuous basis since that time. In 1920, Bryn Mawr College became the first institution of higher education in the United States to award a PhD in social work. Then President of Bryn Mawr, M. Carey Thomas, was definitive in her thinking that graduate education in social work belonged at the College. She determined that the Department would train leaders and investigators educated with the conceptual tools and theoretical knowledge based on research that would enable them to improve social work practice. In 1970, after decades of growth, the department became a professional school, our Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR).
Throughout its now 100+ year old history, the GSSWSR has been instrumental in promoting the social work profession by providing a rigorous educational environment to prepare master and doctoral graduates to be clinicians, administrators, policy analysts, advocates, and educators. Faculty, students, staff, and alumni remain committed to addressing the needs of individuals, families, organizations, and communities with an emphasis on social and economic justice for the enhancement of individual, societal, and global well-being.

Over the last four decades in particular, this spirit of innovation was to soar again as seen in the following highlights: In 1976, the Master of Law and Social Policy joint degree program was established and while having now transitioned to a Social Work and Law Certificate Program (SWL), it still prepares students to examine the legal process, its relationship to the delivery of human services, and their own roles in shaping policy. As the MLSP was the first and only master's degree program of its kind at a graduate school of social work, the new SWL remains unique among certificate programs as well.

In 1986, a career development office was established within the School, becoming one of the very first social work programs to have on-site career development staff. Our office of career development serves both current GSSWSR students and alumni.

In 1987, our first continuing education program was offered. Renamed in 2009 as The Center for Professional Development, "Pro Dev" now attracts over 400 attendees each year.

Since 1998, GSSWSR has been accredited by the State of Pennsylvania to provide coursework leading to the Home and School Visitor Certification. Also known as "School Social Work", participants in our HSV program are current students, alumni, and community professionals.

In 2002, the Center for Child and Family Well-Being was created to foster a multidisciplinary focus on a broad range of issues and challenges facing children and families across the life cycle, and in 2012 started its "Junior Fellows Program" for qualified students to deepen their knowledge and skills in this area.

In 2003, we created the "Introduction to Social Work Education Series". Now known as our "Career Changers Program", this seminar series is designed for individuals from a range of professional and life experiences to explore a career change to social work.

In 2004, the School founded the Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI) in direct response to a call from social and human service leaders in the community to establish a high-level, specialized leadership training program tailored to meet their individual and agency needs. NELI has continued to enroll 23-25 senior leaders annually from the nonprofit and public sectors, and in 2011 began a program for middle managers as well.

In 2007, the School initiated an Advanced Standing program for students who have received a bachelor's degree within the past five years of application to our School and have a high academic standing from an accredited social work program.

In 2010, a Certificate in Organizational Behavior and Management was established to focus on the role of individuals with organizational leadership responsibilities, emphasize the close relationship between organizational behavior and the practice of management, and deepen students’ knowledge and skills in addressing the micro-to-macro issues facing all who serve in organizations.

In 2012, the School announced the new dual degree MSS/MPH program with Thomas Jefferson University’s School of Population Health. This collaboration provides both current students and alumni (within five years of graduation) the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the connections among an individual’s ‘emotions, mind, and body’.

In 2015, the School celebrated its 100th birthday of "professional graduate education for purposeful action"! A new, unique Social Work and Law Certificate emerged, which explores the issues and professional challenges for practice in areas where law and social work overlap.

In 2018, the GSSWSR announced a transformative gift to support the development of a trauma informed curriculum. This gift will support the development of required and elective courses for MSS students, as well as research opportunities.

The GSSWSR is proud of its rich traditions and we look forward to continuing in the spirit of our predecessors for generations to come! We know that innovative thinking when joined by strategic action is essential to retaining our ability to best prepare Social Work professionals for lives of service to individuals, organizations, and communities in our country and throughout the world.

Our Students

Our GSSWSR students come from a wide variety of educational, occupational, and personal backgrounds. Moreover, while the vast majority of students come to our School from the east coast of the United States, increasingly more students are joining us from other states, as well as other countries. Please see our website for more detailed information about the demographics of the incoming 2018-19 class.
ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATION INFORMATION

Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) offers a Master of Social Service (MSS) degree, including an Advanced Standing MSS program, and a PhD degree. GSSWSR also offers a dual degree Master of Social Service and Master of Public Health (MSS/MPH) in conjunction with Thomas Jefferson University’s College of Population Health.

For information about the admissions and application processes, please contact: Bryn Mawr College Graduate Admissions Office: 610.526.5100
Email: gradadmissions@brynmawr.edu
Web: brynmawr.edu/socialwork/admissions-financial-aid

GSSWSR Information Days

The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) works with our College Admissions Office to host a series of Saturday Information Days for prospective students. Administration, faculty and current students are available to answer questions about the curriculum, field placements, the application and admissions processes, and financial aid. A list of dates is published on the social work admissions website: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/admissions-financial-aid/visit-school.

Career Changers Program for Prospective MSS Students

The Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) Career Changers non-credit program is a half-day workshop that provides an overview of our graduate program. This workshop is designed for those considering ‘changing careers’ or returning to school to pursue social work education and training.

Prospective students may have some work or volunteer experience in a social service field and want to learn how their education and interests can prepare them for graduate social work education. Others may have no prior experience but believe that their future is “in people” and wish to discover more about the field of social work.

The Career Changers Program provides an overview of our graduate program in Social Work. This workshop is designed to give participants a chance to meet faculty and to learn about the multiple ways that people can use advanced education in Social Work. It uses a “case study” and interactive discussion approach as its format.

Upcoming dates are posted on our web site: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/prospective-students/are-you-career-changer.

International Students

The GSSWSR welcomes applications to all of its programs from qualified international students. If English is not the applicant’s native language, the TOEFL examination is required. Bryn Mawr College has an Office of International Programs that facilitates the transition and integration of enrolled international students into the Bryn Mawr community by providing resources on matters of particular interest to international students. International students may obtain advice on U.S. immigration issues enabling them to assume personal responsibility for remaining in compliance with the regulatory requirements governing their stay in the United States. More information can be found on the web by visiting www.brynmawr.edu/pensby/international-services-and-advising.

Yellow Ribbon Program

Bryn Mawr College participates in the Department of Veterans Affairs’ Yellow Ribbon Program at the maximum level. The Yellow Ribbon program greatly expands veterans’ higher-education benefits.

Eligible students admitted to degree programs in Bryn Mawr’s Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and undergraduate college, are able to take advantage of this benefit. Students applying to Bryn Mawr may also be eligible for additional aid beyond the VA benefit. For more information about the program see: www.brynmawr.edu/financial-aid/aid/special-programs-yellow-ribbon-program.
Transfer Credit (Incoming Students Only)

In the MSS program, it is possible to obtain transfer credit for graduate courses taken at accredited colleges or universities if those courses meet Bryn Mawr’s degree requirements.

Students entering the MSS program who have completed graduate level courses may be granted transfer credit for two foundation courses and one elective for a total of three transfer credits.

Students who have graduated from a CSWE accredited BSW program, and plan to apply to the Advanced Standing program, may transfer up to eight courses. (Specific information can be found under the Advanced Standing section of this document.)

In order to receive transfer credit, courses must have been taken within the last five years and a grade of “B” or better must have been earned. Students should initiate review of courses for transfer credit upon being admitted to Bryn Mawr. Once a student begins classes at the GSSWSR, transfer courses/credit from other institutions will not be accepted. An exception to this rule is when a student enrolls under the reciprocal plan with the University of Pennsylvania (see more details under the Academic Policies and Procedures section in this catalog).

Transfer credit for the PhD program must be approved by the Dean and by the doctoral faculty for the PhD program. Transfer credit will be granted after the student has successfully completed one semester in the PhD program.

All students requesting transfer credit for either program must specify the courses for which transfer credit is being requested and provide an official transcript and syllabus. Students may also be required to submit any other related materials needed for an assessment to be made by faculty teaching the comparable Bryn Mawr course, or over the summer, by the faculty’s designated representative.

Please note that Bryn Mawr College does not grant academic course credit for life or previous work experience.

Waiver Examinations (MSS Program Only)

It is possible for students to waive certain required courses by written examination. In some cases, when students do not meet the requirements for obtaining transfer credit, they may be eligible to take a waiver exam. Examples include:

• When a course was completed at another institution, but a grade of B or higher was not earned
• When a course was completed over five years from the time of application to the GSSWSR
• When a course was completed at a non-accredited program/institution

Students must have satisfactorily completed undergraduate or graduate course work in the area(s) in which they plan to take the waiver exam(s). This course work must be supported by an official transcript. For each waiver exam, the student must provide the course number, title and institution at which the course with similar content was taken. Students may also be required to submit further documentation such as: course descriptions and/or course syllabi.

Information about waiver examinations is made available to newly enrolled MSS students prior to the start of their first semester in the School’s MSS program. The courses that may be waived by examination are: Research Informed Practice I and II; Theoretical Perspectives I and II; and Social Policy Foundations and Analysis. The following courses may not be waived: Field Education; Practice courses; Assessment and Psychopathology Across the Life Span; Community Strategies and Assessment: Advocacy and Action; and Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression.

Students receive one course unit of credit for any waiver exam that they pass and each course waived through the passage of a waiver exam will reduce by one the number of course units required for the MSS degree. Credit will be awarded upon satisfactory completion of one semester in the program.

It is strongly suggested that graduates of BSW and related programs take appropriate waiver exams. Waiver exam failures are not noted on the student’s academic record.

All waiver examinations for first semester courses must be taken prior to the beginning of the first semester; waiver exams for second semester courses must be taken by the date in November specified by the Dean’s Office. Each exam may be taken only once and must be scheduled through the Dean’s Office. Please refer to Moodle for specific dates for this academic year.
MSS Application Information

Application Requirements: MSS Program

To be eligible for the MSS degree program, you must possess:

• A Bachelor’s Degree from an Accredited College or University
  (Note: Undergraduates completing their senior year of College may also apply. Accepted students must
  furnish an official transcript before the start of classes.)

Early Application Option

Applicants who submit their completed application packet by December 1 will be notified of their admission
status through the initial review on or before March 1. Early applicants often have better access to financial
aid, and receive priority for assignment of field placements and course registration. For a small number of
early applicants, additional information may be required and requested. For these applicants, a final decision
may not be available until after March 1.

For the Regular Application Plan, all application materials are due by April 15.

MSS Application Checklist:

• Application
• Essay/Personal Statement
• Three Letters of Recommendations: Three letters of recommendation are required. If you have been out
  of school for 5 years or less, two must be academic references
• Transcripts: An official transcript is required from all colleges and universities attended
• Admissions Interview: Students are required to schedule an interview by calling the Office of Admissions
  at 610-526-5152 or plan to visit the school, by completing an on-line form: www.brynmawr.edu/
socialwork/admissions-financial-aid/visit-school

Application Requirements: MSS Advanced Standing Program

To be eligible for the Advanced Standing Program, you must possess:

• A BSW from a CSWE-accredited program within five years of application
• A minimum overall G.P.A. of 3.0

All application materials for the MSS Advanced Standing program are due by February 1.

Advanced Standing Program Application Checklist:

• Application
• Official Transcripts: An official transcript from all colleges and universities attended
• Essay/Personal Statement
• Three Letters of Recommendation from the following: BSW Program Director, a field instructor, and a
  faculty member.
• Admissions Interview: Students may schedule an interview by calling the Office of Admissions at 610-
  526-5152 or plan to visit the school, by completing an on-line form: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/
  admissions-financial-aid/visit-school.

Application Requirements: MSS/MPH Dual Degree Program with Thomas Jefferson University College of
Population Health (JCPH) (for Current Students and Alumni within five years of graduation)

GSSWSR to JCPH:

• Completed application form through SOPHAS (a centralized online application service for public health)
• Official college/university transcripts from all institutions attended. Minimum grade of B or equivalent for all
  GSSWSR MSS coursework, completed or in progress.
• International students: evaluation of foreign transcripts by the World Education Service (WES) or
  comparable agency if GSSWSR has not previously undertaken such a review
• Completion or satisfactory academic progress toward completion of all Designated Coursework
• Application fee (a portion of the application fee is waived upon acceptance into the program)
• Three letters of recommendation: Letters of recommendation should speak directly to the student’s ability to perform academic work at the graduate level as well as address the student’s motivation, leadership capabilities, and relevant work and/or community experiences
• Personal statement and CV, including information on volunteering and community service activities
• Interview by JCPH personnel

**JCPH to GSSWSR:**

Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research seeks applicants who have earned bachelor’s degrees from accredited colleges and universities and who have the following qualities:

• An unusually high commitment to social service and social justice
• An acceptance of the many aspects of diversity
• A demonstrated ability to think clearly, creatively and independently
• A well-developed “sense of self”
• The emotional maturity needed to sustain a challenging career devoted to helping and working with others
• Application (due by April 15 for fall admission)
• Application fee
• Interview: Interviews are required. Students may schedule an interview or plan a visit by calling the Office of Admissions at 610-526-5152.
• Essays: Part II including Personal Statement 1 (a two-part question), and Personal Statement 2. NOTE: All applicants must complete part A of Personal Statement 2.
• Three Letters of Recommendations: Three letters of recommendation are required. For students who have been out of school for 5 years or less, two must be academic references.
• Transcripts - An official transcript from all colleges and universities attended. Completion of all Designated Coursework at JCPH. Minimum grade point average of B for all MPH coursework completed at JCPH.

For more information about the MSS/MPH dual degree program, please contact:

Bryn Mawr College Admissions Phone: 610-526-5152
E-mail: gradadmissions@brynmawr.edu
Web: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/admissions-financial-aid

Jefferson College of Population Health, Phone: 215-503-0174
E-mail: jsphadmissions@jefferson.edu
Web: www.jefferson.edu/university/population-health

**Application Requirements: Doctoral Program**

To be eligible for the Doctoral Program, you must possess:

• A Master’s degree in Social Work from an accredited university or a Master’s degree in a related field
• An undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher
• A graduate grade point average of 3.5 or higher
• Additionally, two years of post-MSW work experience is recommended, but not required

*(NOTE: Applicants for the PhD program must speak with the Chair of the Doctoral Program, or a faculty member, prior to submitting the application for admission. Please contact the admissions office at 610-526-5152 for available times and dates.)*

**Doctoral Candidate Application Checklist:**

• Application with personal statement: A personal statement describing an applicant’s reasons for choosing to pursue doctoral education in social work and social welfare. Applicants are required as well to analyze a social problem, identifying factors that must be considered in developing a policy or program to address the problem, and the social work practice issues implied by the analysis.
• Transcripts: An official transcript from all colleges and universities attended.
• GRE test results: GRE is examined as part of a holistic application process. Ideally, candidates have a verbal reasoning GRE score of at least 153 (500 in old scoring system), and a quantitative GRE score of at least 144 (500 in old scoring system) with a preference for a quantitative score of at least 148 (600 in the old scoring system). Preference is given to candidates who earn an analytic writing score of at least 5.0.
• Interviews are required.
• Three Letters of Recommendations: Letters of recommendation are required from three individuals capable of assessing the applicant’s ability to engage successfully in doctoral study. Two of these should be academic references.
Master of Social Service (MSS program)

Overview

Effective Social Work leadership remains much needed, whether in service to individuals, families, organizations, or entire communities, and is shaped by the knowledge and level of skill and practice experience brought into the field by its professionally prepared graduates. The Master of Social Service (MSS) program at Bryn Mawr’s Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research responds to this need through a carefully balanced curriculum designed to explore the array of opportunities available to social workers, equipping them with the flexibility essential to continual growth in a changing world.

The MSS program goals are designed to:

- Teach social work ethics and frameworks for applying ethical principles to social work practice
- Promote the use of knowledge, values, and skills for effective social work leaders across areas of social work practice at the foundation and advanced concentration levels
- Develop strong relationship, assessment, intervention, and evaluation skills
- Utilize an integrated perspective on theory, practice, policy, research, and ethics
- Encourage self-reflection
- Advance social and economic justice
- Foster a critical awareness of diversity and the social and cultural forces that impact individuals, families, organizations, and communities locally, nationally, and globally
- Understand and apply knowledge of human behavior in multiple social, cultural, and economic contexts
- Emphasize critical and creative thinking skills
- Teach strategies to engage in ethical research-informed practice and learn how practice experience can inform research for increased effectiveness of both
- Develop students’ skills for advocacy and policy practice on behalf of clients and client systems
- Create a learning community that is both challenging and supportive

Bryn Mawr College’s Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) MSS degree is equivalent in both licensure and use to the MSW degree.

Program Information

The Bryn Mawr College GSSWSR offers a full-time (2) year program and a new part-time (3) year program to meet the individual’s life circumstances. The admissions requirements and procedures are the same for all students. All students begin their course of study in the fall semester except for Advanced Standing students who begin in the summer. It is possible to complete the MSS degree through taking courses scheduled during the fall, spring, and optional summer sessions. In addition, some selected foundation courses and elective(s) may be offered on Saturdays in the fall and spring semesters. The School offers two advanced concentrations of study: Clinical Social Work Practice and Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy.

While students are not required to enroll in courses during the summer sessions, many take advantage of this opportunity to spread out their course load.

In the fall and spring semesters, classes meet once a week over a 14-week period. Students should plan to be at the School at least two days per week. During the five-week summer sessions, classes generally meet twice a week. Some courses require time in the computer lab.

Course units for the MSS degree must total 18 including 4 units of field education.

Full-Time (2-Year) Plan of Study

The full-time plan of study generally allows students to complete the program in two years. This plan requires five courses per semester, including field education, be taken in the first year and that four courses per semester, including field education, be taken in the second year. Students have the option of taking two of the courses offered in the summer between their first and second year. The MSS program’s concurrent model requires students to be enrolled in a practice class and field education at the same time.
New Part-Time (3-Year) Plan of Study

Students enrolled in the new part-time program usually complete their courses over a three year period. Courses will either be in the evening at GSSWSR, or offered in a hybrid format that will include a combination of hybrid/on-line courses and on-site instruction. Students will need to take some summer courses to complete the program. Foundation courses are taken during the first year of the part-time plan, and the practice courses, field education, and electives are taken during the second and third years. Practice courses and concurrent field education must be taken in consecutive years. Students may not take fewer than two courses per semester.

All MSS students have a maximum of 4 years to complete all program requirements.

MSS Advanced Standing

Overview

The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) Advanced Standing MSS program is designed for individuals who have completed a BSW degree within the last five years from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited school of social work. Graduate social work education enables students to deepen and expand the foundational knowledge and skills gained at the undergraduate level. Students in the MSS program are challenged to think broadly about the synergy of research, policy, and practice, and given the necessary tools to work as a promoter of social justice within a context that recognizes the importance of sociocultural diversity and the development of professional self-awareness.

Program Information

The Advanced Standing MSS program begins in the summer and must be undertaken on a full-time basis if the student is planning to graduate the following May. Advanced Standing students who choose to attend part-time are expected to graduate by the following September.

During the two summer sessions, classes meet twice a week over 5-week periods. In the fall and spring semesters, classes meet once a week over a 14 week period. Students should keep in mind that some courses require time in the computer lab.

Financial aid is available through a combination of Bryn Mawr College grants and subsidized and unsubsidized loans.

Potentially Transferable Courses for Advanced Standing Students

Contingent on completion of appropriate course work with grade of B or higher and review of syllabi by faculty teaching in specific curricular areas:

- Foundation Practice II
- Research Informed Practice I and II
- Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I and II
- Social Policy Foundations and Analysis
- Multiculturalism/Diversity
- Field Education II

MSS Curriculum

The Master of Social Service curriculum includes foundation courses, practice courses, field education, and elective courses. The program for the MSS degree provides concentrated study in two areas of social work practice along the client continuum: Clinical Social Work Practice or Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy. Students select one area of concentration that is supported by a set of required courses that are common to the field as a whole. Candidates must complete a minimum of eighteen course units, including four course units of field education to receive the MSS degree.

Foundation Courses

Through a series of common required courses in addition to two units of field education, students are introduced to the knowledge, skills, and values essential to practice with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations. These foundation courses provide students with the framework for more specialized practice skills. The foundation courses are designed to introduce all students to the range of social
and behavioral science theories, social policies, analytical methods, and values that form the context of social work practice.

Students generally complete these common requirements during the first year of the full time plan of study. Students enrolled in the part-time plan of study complete these same requirements, with the exception of practice (501 and 502) and field education (521 and 522) during the first year. In addition, all students must take the required course Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression (540). This course is offered in both summer sessions as well as the fall semester.

Practice classes and field education are taken concurrently in four consecutive semesters. After completing Foundation Practice I and II, students move into a concentration, either in Clinical Social Work Practice or Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy.

**Clinical Social Work Practice Concentration**

Clinical social work is a specialized form of practice with individuals, families, and groups. Grounded in the history of the Social Work profession, this advanced concentration emphasizes practice within the profession’s code of ethics, and with special regard for the promotion of social and economic justice. Across this curriculum, students learn how research is utilized to inform practice and how practice experiences can be utilized to raise new questions. The two core practice seminars in the Clinical Social Work Practice concentration are set within a biopsychosocialspiritual framework. Students are taught to conceptualize their work from a strengths perspective, employ the skills of critical and creative thinking and self-reflection and demonstrate a solid understanding of a risk and protective factor framework and an understanding of a developmentally informed approach to social work practice. Emphasis is placed on the knowledge, skills, and values required to be an effective clinical social worker. Students are expected to show mastery of the processes of engagement, assessment, intervention planning and implementation, and ending processes such as transfer and termination.

Throughout, the Clinical Social Work Practice concentration emphasizes social and multicultural diversity across and within an array of contexts. Students who complete the Clinical Social Work Practice concentration are able to compare and contrast multiple professional theoretical orientations including those found in psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral, social-constructionist, and integrative frameworks.

**Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy Concentration**

The Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy concentration prepares students for professional macro-level Social Work practice that promotes the ability to analyze, develop, and implement public policy to advocate most effectively for those served by professional Social Work. The concentration emphasizes community organization and development, needs assessment, organizational behavioral analysis, frameworks for policy analysis, and program development related to the evolution of social policy in local, national, and global settings. It prepares students with the knowledge, skills, and values required to promote social change that can improve the lives of vulnerable and at-risk individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Finally, this concentration stresses the critical analysis of current trends in relation to policy, advocacy, and activism, paying particular attention to the sociocultural context of social work practice and to issues that can affect not only policy practice but also institutional practices that impact groups differentially, raising critical advocacy and practice dilemmas.

**MSS Electives**

Based on the belief that direct service practitioners, policy analysts, advocates, and administrators all need breadth and depth for effective practice and leadership in a rapidly changing world, our electives have been designed to build on foundation content and support and enhance the two concentrations. All MSS students must take three elective courses (three units), with the exception of Advanced Standing students, who must take four elective courses (four units). The elective courses provide an opportunity for specialization and depth as students prepare for professional careers at the Master’s level. They also offer students the opportunity to explore a variety of roles taken by social workers, and thus encourage flexibility for further growth during the student’s entire career.
MSS Sample Plan of Study: Full-time (2 year) plan with summer study option
(For students beginning program with 5 courses each semester; summer study between first and second year)

NOTE: Summer classes are offered during two 5-week sessions and meet two times per week. Courses typically offered are: Research Informed Practice I & II, Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression, and Electives. In order to qualify for federal loans, students must enroll in at least two courses in the summer.

First Year

Fall Semester
B501 Foundation Practice I
B521 Field Education I
B503 Research Informed Practice I
B505 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I
B507 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work II

NOTE: All MSS students enrolled in Foundation Practice I must take the 1/2 day seminar (required for graduation), B555 Ethics in Social Work, which is only offered in January over winter break.

Spring Semester
B502 Foundation Practice II
B522 Field Education II
B504 Research Informed Practice II
B506 Assessment and Psychopathology across the Lifespan (Clinical concentration) OR
B508 Community Strategies & Assessment: Advocacy & Action (CPPA concentration)
B517 Social Policy Foundations and Analysis

Summer Session
B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression
Elective

Second Year

Fall Semester
B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I OR B531 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy I
B541 Field Education III
Elective

Spring Semester
B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II OR B532 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy II
B542 Field Education IV
Elective
MSS Sample Plan of Study: Full-time (2 year) plan without summer study option

(For students beginning program with 5 courses each semester) First Year

First Year

Fall Semester
B501 Foundation Practice I
B521 Field Education I
B503 Research Informed Practice I
B505 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I
B507 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work II

NOTE: All MSS students enrolled in Foundation Practice I must take the ½ day seminar (required for graduation), B555 Ethics in Social Work, which is only offered in January over winter break.

Spring Semester
B502 Foundation Practice II
B522 Field Education II
B504 Research Informed Practice II
B506 Assessment and Psychopathology across the Lifespan (Clinical concentration) OR
B508 Community Strategies & Assessment: Advocacy & Action (CPPA concentration)
B517 Social Policy Foundations and Analysis

Second Year

Fall Semester
B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I OR B531 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy I
B541 Field Education III
B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression
Elective

Spring Semester
B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II OR B532 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy II
B542 Field Education IV
2 Electives
MSS Sample Plan of Study: Full-time (2 year) plan with summer study option

(For students beginning program with 4 courses each semester; summer study between first and second year)

NOTE: Summer classes are offered during two 5-week sessions and meet two times per week. Courses typically offered are: Research Informed Practice I & II, Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression, and Electives. In order to qualify for federal loans, students must enroll in at least two courses in the summer.

First Year

Fall Semester

B501 Foundation Practice I
B521 Field Education I
B505 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I
B507 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work II

NOTE: All MSS students enrolled in Foundation Practice I must take the 1/2 day seminar (required for graduation), B555 Ethics in Social Work, which is only offered in January over winter break.

Spring Semester

B502 Foundation Practice II
B522 Field Education II
B506 Assessment and Psychopathology across the Lifespan (Clinical concentration) OR
B508 Community Strategies & Assessment: Advocacy & Action (CPPA concentration)
B517 Social Policy Foundations and Analysis

Summer Session

B503 Research Informed Practice I
B504 Research Informed Practice II

Second Year (Graduate in May) OR (Graduate in September)

Fall Semester

B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I OR
B531 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy I
B541 Field Education III
B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege & Oppression Elective

Spring Semester

B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II OR
B532 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy II
B542 Field Education IV
2 Electives

Fall Semester

B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I OR
B531 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy I
B541 Field Education III
B540 Multiculturalism: PPO

Spring Semester

B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II OR
B532 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy II
B542 Field Education IV
Elective

Summer Session

2 Electives
MSS Sample Plan of Study: Part-time (3-year) plan

First Year

Fall Semester
B505 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I
B507 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work II

Spring Semester
B506 Assessment and Psychopathology across the Lifespan (Clinical concentration) OR
B508 Community Strategies & Assessment: Advocacy & Action (CPPA concentration)

AND
B517 Social Policy Foundations and Analysis

Summer I and Summer II
B503 Research Informed Practice I
B504 Research Informed Practice II

Second Year

Fall Semester
B501 Foundation Practice I
B521 Field Education I

NOTE: All MSS students enrolled in Foundation Practice I must take the ½ day seminar (required for graduation), B555 Ethics in Social Work, which is only offered in January over winter break.

Spring Semester
B502 Foundation Practice II
B522 Field Education II

Summer I and Summer II
B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression
Elective

Third Year

Fall Semester
B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I OR
B531 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy I
B541 Field Education III

AND
Elective

Spring Semester
B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II OR
B532 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy II
B542 Field Education IV
Elective
MSS Sample Plan of Study: For Advanced Standing Students only

One year Full-time MSS Program for students who have completed a BSW degree within the last five years from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited School of Social Work. Advanced Standing Students who enroll in the program part-time must complete all requirements by the following September.

NOTE: Advanced Standing students generally begin their academic study in summer session II. If students are available to take classes during summer session I, this could be possible. Summer courses typically meet twice a week over two 5-week periods. Advanced Standing students are required to take 4 electives.

Fall and spring are traditional 14-week semesters with courses offered two days a week to allow three days in the field. In order to qualify for federal loans, students must enroll in at least two courses per session/semester.

Potentially transferable courses (with a grade of B or higher) for Advanced Standing Students include:
B502 Foundation Practice II
B503 Research Informed Practice I
B504 Research Informed Practice II
B505 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I
B507 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work II
B517 Social Policy Foundations and Analysis
B540 Multiculturalism/Diversity
B522 Field Education II

Suggested Summer Courses
B506 Assessment and Psychopathology across the Lifespan (*Clinical Concentration students only)
B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression (offered summer and fall only) OR
1 Elective

Fall Semester
B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I (Clinical concentration) OR
B531 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy I (CPPA concentration)
B541 Field Education III
2 Electives

Students should also take any required Foundation class for which transfer credit was not granted (see list above).

Spring Semester
B508 Community Assessment (CPPA Concentration students only)
B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II OR
B532 Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy II
B542 Field Education IV
1 or 2 Electives

B506 Assessment and Psychopathology across the Lifespan (*Clinical Concentration students only and if not successfully completed in summer). Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy concentration students take B508 Community Strategies and Assessment: Advocacy and Action.

Students should also take any required Foundation class for which transfer credit was not granted (see list above).
Field Education

Overview

Field Education is an integral part of the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research Master of Social Service (MSS) program. The Field Education component of the curriculum provides students with both observational learning and practical “hands-on” social work experience in preparation for professional Social Work practice. All details regarding student roles and responsibilities in the field, and policies and procedures pertaining to the field placement process, evaluation of the field experience, interrupted field placements, time requirements, agency holidays, field education attendance, field assignments, and other related information is listed in the Field Education Manual, 2018-2019.

Field Education Course and Structure

Students have two different field placements, one in each of their two years in the field. Foundation Year (Field Education I and II) and Advanced Concentration Year (Field Education III and IV) field placements are to be in different agencies (or, sometimes, different programs within a larger agency, dependent on Director of Field Education approval), with different field instructors. To be approved, field placements must demonstrate compatibility of the agency’s mission and philosophy of service with the values and ethics of the social work profession and the capacity to provide opportunities for students to achieve competency in all practice behaviors associated with their respective program year and/or concentration under professional supervision.

Field Education courses are taken concurrently with Foundation Practice I and II in the first year in field, and Advanced Clinical or CPPA Practice I and II in the second year in field. Foundation Year field placements expose students to a generalist experience, with broad range of client needs and populations. Advanced Year field placements are coordinated with a student’s choice of concentration (i.e., Clinical Social Work Practice or Community Practice, Policy and Advocacy).

Student Readiness

Students admitted to the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) will have demonstrated academic preparedness. Students must also be able to perform the essential duties required in agency-based field settings. Prior to placement in the field, newly enrolled students will be interviewed for field placement readiness by a member of the Field Education Office. A delay in field placement may be recommended for students who may not have the necessary experience, abilities, or skill-level to perform successfully in social service agencies with clients.

Assignment of Students

In assigning field placements, the GSSWSR considers the student’s previous experiences, interests, academic and professional goals, along with the GSSWSR’s knowledge of agency resources and appropriate learning opportunities. It is the GSSWSR’s policy that all potential field placements are to be investigated, negotiated, and arranged by the Field Education Office.

All field placements must be approved by the Field Education office and must meet all of our requirements. Student field placements and arrangements are made by the School. Students do not arrange their own placements and agencies do not interview students in advance of contact with the Field Education Office.

Students have an opportunity to list specific learning goals and interests as they relate to both agency services and professional standards. Field setting preferences will be considered, keeping in mind that there are numerous complex factors that go into the field placement matching process. These factors include, but are not limited to, the agency’s competitive interviewing process, a student’s prior experience working in human service agency settings with clients, and a student’s interviewing and professional skills.

Students are referred to only one potential field agency at a time. Once a student accepts a placement offer, the student is making an agreement with the agency to begin a placement with them in the fall (or designated) semester. The placement cannot be changed without consultation with the Director of Field Education.

Worksite

In some cases students may use a current employment site as a field education setting, subject to approval by the Field Office. Students must submit a proposal to the Field Office, using guidelines as set forth in the Field Education Manual. In these instances, the GSSWSR works closely with the agency and student to establish a learning experience that recognizes the complexity of the student-employee role while providing educationally rich advanced learning opportunities for the student to apply the principles, knowledge, and practice skills learned in courses. Students are encouraged to have a non-worksite field placement for one of the two years. Students must have been employed at the worksite agency for a minimum of 6 months, and be past the probation period, prior to the submission of a proposal for a worksite field placement. Students cannot use employment hours for field placement hours.
**Required Time in Field**

All students are required to be in the field the equivalent of 2 full (or 8-hour) agency work days/week per semester in the Foundation, or first year, and the equivalent of 3 full (or 8-hour) agency work days per week/per semester in the Concentration, or second year. Advanced Standing students are in the field the equivalent of 3 full (or 8-hour) agency work days per week/per semester throughout the field placement.

It is expected that at least one full (or 8-hour) day of field will occur on a weekday (M-F) during regular daytime hours (between 8:30 am and 5:00pm). All students must be available to accommodate this schedule. The field office cannot guarantee the availability of placements on evenings or weekends.

**Clearances**

Agencies may require students to apply for clearances and/or background checks as a requirement of the practicum. Some agencies, especially those serving children or serving individuals in health care settings, require child abuse, and/or criminal history, including state and FBI clearances. In some instances, agencies also require physicals, specific immunizations and drug screenings. Students must be aware that having criminal backgrounds or negative findings on screenings may delay the start of placement or prevent them from being placed in agency settings. This may also impact their ability to obtain licensure as a professional social worker. The student is responsible for all costs associated with these clearances and tests.

**Withdrawal from Field**

A student who has been withdrawn from a field placement for reasons related to documented poor performance will meet with the Director or Assistant Director of Field Education who will determine if the student will be given another placement or be referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students to review the student’s program and performance. If the student is again removed for reasons related to documented poor performance in the second placement, or, in the replacement process, refuses or is refused a field placement, the student will not be placed again until the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students meets and reviews the student’s program and performance. The purpose of this meeting is to make recommendations. These recommendations may include but are not limited to: rearrangement of student’s program to complete field placement at a later time; having the student seek additional experiences outside of the School to address identified areas of weakness; providing additional field placement opportunity(ies); or removal from the program.
ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR MSS STUDENTS

The Center for Child and Family Well-Being

Children and families are faced with a complex set of sociocultural, economic, and political challenges and practitioners, researchers, advocates, and policy analysts must be trained to synthesize a rapidly developing knowledge base to effectively address the needs of this population. The Center for Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) was initiated by the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research in the 2002 academic year in an effort to respond to evolving needs for leadership and training in the broad area of child and family well-being across the life cycle. A primary goal of the Center is to foster a multidisciplinary perspective that reflects both the historic mission of social work practice and the current reality of the multi-determined nature of the many problems facing today's children and families. The accompanying emphasis on the integration of practice, policy, and research not only provides a comprehensive understanding of these social problems, but also promotes a capacity to respond flexibly and inclusively to changing needs and diverse populations and contexts. The Center, with its strong emphasis on training and its commitment to the advancement of knowledge and the application of theory and research to practice and policy, is strategically positioned to forge a leadership role in promoting strong and innovative initiatives related to child and family well-being. Its lecture and conference series serve to advance the knowledge, value, and skill base required for work with this population.

Center for Child and Family Well-Being Junior Fellows Program (For MSS Students)

The Junior Fellows program is open to all MSS students interested in further exploration of research, policy, and practice relevant to the wellbeing of children and their families. Full-time and part-time students can apply to the fellowship program. Students who complete two years as a Junior Fellow will receive a certificate of achievement, and have this milestone noted on their academic transcript. Applications to the Junior Fellows program can be completed once students are accepted into the MSS program.

The Junior Fellows program offers a unique training opportunity and a way to form a cohort with other students who have similar interests and career goals. Junior Fellows participate in an integrative seminar that meets five times during the academic year. Each of the integrative seminars is three-hours and held on Saturdays. The integrative seminar is an activity of the CFWB and not a course offered as part of the MSS curriculum. These seminars focus on the integration of research, policy, and practice with regard to primary social indicators of child and family well-being. These seminars offer additional opportunities to connect field learning experiences with academic work in the broad area of child and family well-being.

In addition to participation in the integrative seminar, Junior Fellows also attend the G. Mildred and A. Foster Scott Lecture Series, an externally funded program that each year brings a diverse range of speakers to the GSSWSR to address issues relevant to practice, policy, research, and advocacy. Junior Fellows will share written reflections on their experiences in the integrative seminar in the area of child and family wellbeing that is designed to deepen their understanding of this specialized area of work. The cost of the Fellowship in Child and Family Well-Being is $150 per academic year.

A primary mission of the Center for Child and Family Well-Being is to foster collaboration within the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, with other departments at Bryn Mawr College, and with organizations and professionals within the wider community. To this end, the G. Mildred and A. Foster Scott lectures and the Seminars for Reflection and Action are free and open to the public and provide valuable opportunities for students, faculty members, and community-based professionals to build connections and relationships with others who share common interests in the well-being of children and families.

Home And School Visitor Certificate (for Current MSS and all Post MSS/MSW Students)

The Home and School Visitor (HSV) Certificate is required by most Pennsylvania school districts for individuals who work as part of the supportive personnel team that provides a variety of services to students in grades K-12. Bryn Mawr’s Home and School Visitor Certificate program has been carefully developed to meet all requirements established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and is an approved PDE certification provider.
The HSV curriculum includes coursework in education law, public education issues for school social workers, and perspectives in special education. Other academic requirements include an elective pertaining to work with children and/or adolescents; a 375 hour school-based practicum working with students and their families as well as teachers and support staff; a non-credit integrative seminar; and Professional Development courses pertaining to English language learners; expanded education law; and psychological testing for school social workers.

**HSV Eligibility**

Applicants to the Home and School Visitor Certificate Program include:

- Students enrolled in the GSSWSR Master of Social Service (MSS) degree program who complete program requirements within their graduate curriculum; and
- Individuals who have completed a MSW or related degree at Bryn Mawr or another institution and who apply as non-matriculated students.

**For More Information and To Apply**

Please see the GSSWSR website:

https://www.brynmawr.edu/swprodev/certificate-programs/home-and-school-visitor-certificate-program

**Child Welfare Education for Leadership (CWEL)**

The Child Welfare Education for Leadership (CWEL) program is a cooperative effort among the United States Administration for Children and Families, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, the Pennsylvania Child and Youth Administrators and twelve accredited schools of social work in Pennsylvania. Its goal is to strengthen public child welfare services in Pennsylvania by providing educational opportunities at the graduate level for public child welfare personnel. Qualified persons who are admitted to any of the approved schools on either a full-time or part-time basis may receive substantial financial support in return for a contractual obligation to continue employment with the sponsoring agency following their studies.

Any employee of a Pennsylvania county child welfare agency may apply provided the applicant has the prerequisite academic degree from an accredited institution of higher education; has been employed by the same agency for a minimum of two years; has at least satisfactory performance evaluations; and (if applying for full-time study) is granted an educational leave by the employing agency for the purpose of enrolling in the CWEL program. Those who have already started a graduate Social Work program in a CWEL school may also apply, so long as they are in good academic standing and they do not have any outstanding debts to the school in which they are enrolled. Persons in default of federal educational loans are ineligible. Caseworkers, supervisors, and administrative personnel are all eligible to participate.

**CWEL Course Requirements at GSSWSR**

- SOWK B566 A, B, C, D - Child and Family Integrative Seminar (non-credit - 4 semesters)

All CWEL students must choose two of the three elective courses required for the MSS degree from among those listed below:

- SOWK B574 Child Welfare Policy, Practice, and Research
- SOWK B567 Social Work Substance Use Disorders
- SOWK B572 Clinical Social Work and Trauma
- SOWK B565 Clinical Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents
- SOWK B557 Organizational Behavior: An Introduction to the Art and Science
- SOWK B558 Managing the Work of Others
- SOWK B559 Family Therapy: Theory and Practice

Additionally, 1 elective may be chosen from among any Master’s level elective courses

**Social Work and Law Certificate (SWL)**

**Overview**

The Social Work and Law Certificate is offered to students currently enrolled in the MSS program and explores the issues and professional challenges for practice in areas where law and social work overlap. Students learn the legal context of social work practice, acquire an understanding of the American legal
system and develop competency in legal analysis in preparation for addressing the “socio-legal” dimensions of professional practice. Child welfare, mental health, housing, public interest advocacy, health, and immigration are a few illustrative areas where the law’s role in framing problems and intervention is all too apparent, and the Social Work and Law Certificate supplies a rigorous, practical foundation for work in these and other areas. The knowledge and skills acquired in this certificate program are relevant to practitioners at all levels – those who work with individuals, families or groups, communities or organizations, or in the policy and program development arena.

**SWL Enrollment**

Students who are interested in the SWL certificate program must first obtain approval from their Faculty Advisor, and then notify the Dean’s Office of this academic plan by emailing socialwork@brynmawr.edu.

**Courses**

Students must complete the following courses, which also count toward MSS elective credit:

- Legal Process and Social Work (SOWK 584)
- Legal Research Strategies and Socio-Legal Advocacy Roles (SOWK 585)

**Social Work and Law Certificate Special Project**

The Social Work and Law Special Project is a Capstone project, completed in conjunction with the B585 course, which focuses on a topic selected by the student in consultation with the Professor, who supervises the completion of students' work.

**Organizational Behavior and Management Certificate (OBM)**

**Overview**

The Organizational Behavior and Management Certificate is offered to students currently enrolled in the MSS program. This Certificate focuses on the role of individuals with organizational leadership responsibilities and emphasizes the close relationship between organizational behavior and the practice of management. Activities that are the focus of attention include: leading, planning, strategizing, organizing, supervising, and evaluating within the context of a particular organization and system.

Students who are interested in the OBM certificate program must first obtain approval from the Faculty Coordinator, Professor Darlyne Bailey, and then notify the Dean’s Office of this academic plan by emailing socialwork@brynmawr.edu.

**Courses**

Students must complete the following courses, which also count toward MSS elective credit:

- SOWK 557: Organizational Behavior: An Introduction to the Art and Science
- SOWK 558: Managing the Work of Others

**Organizational Behavior and Management Certificate Special Project**

Students must also submit a proposal for a Capstone project and receive the approval of Professor Bailey before beginning it.

Following are guidelines for the design of your organizational behavior/management project. Please go over them with your field supervisor.

- Your project should be practical, possible and important to at least three of the organization’s 10 “S’s” as per SOWK 557. You should have the articulated support of the leadership in your organization.
- The parameters of the project should evolve out of a planning process for the organization or your division or department, and/or should be part of how your supervisor sees his or her own role and responsibilities evolving.
- The project should be designed so that it can be instituted and/or completed by the end of the spring term.
- It should occupy 1/2 day in the field per week—1/6 of the total time in the field.

Following are some examples of possible projects. This list is not meant to be limiting.
• Gathering extensive information about a new kind of service to be offered by the organization and drawing a plan for its incorporation.
• Finding ways to extend services that are presently offered by a program to a new population.
• Gathering extensive information about ways to enhance the effectiveness of at least five of the 10 S’s.
• Conducting follow-up interviews with staff or stakeholders in order to answer questions that are important to the organization.
• Developing a marketing effort for an organization or a program.
• Developing an educational opportunity such as a lecture series that will enhance organizational capacity.
• Developing an evaluation plan for the effectiveness of at least five of the 10 S’s.
• Working on recruitment outreach efforts.
Organizational Behavior and Management Project Approval Form

Name: ____________________________________________  Anticipated Grad Year: ______

Practicum Placement and City: __________________________________________________________

Faculty Supervisor: _____________________________________________________________

Field Supervisor Name and Title: ______________________________________________________

Field Supervisor Contact Phone and Email Address: ________________________________

1. Please attach a typed description of your proposed project and submit it to your Faculty Supervisor who will review it with you for approval to undertake the project. Discuss how it will relate to concepts learned in Organizational Behavior: An Introduction to the Art and Science, and Managing the Work of Others.

2. Please attach an anticipated monthly timeline of tasks.

3. Upon completion of your project, your Faculty Supervisor will review it with you to determine the quality of your work.

4. Please have your Field Supervisor sign below to confirm that they have been consulted about and approve of your proposed project and the time commitment involved (1/2 day each week).

(Field Supervisor Signature) (Date)

(Faculty Supervisor Signature) (Date)

(Student Signature) (Date)

For Office use only:

☑ Approved (date) ________________

☑ Not Approved
Dual Degree MSS/MPH Program

Overview

In the spring of 2012, Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) and Thomas Jefferson University’s College of Population Health (JCPH) confirmed an agreement to offer a dual master’s degree program: a Master of Social Service and a Master of Public Health (MSS/MPH). This collaborative program is open to GSSWSR students who graduated within the past five years, and to current full-time MSS students. By means of this Agreement, eligible GSSWSR students will receive up to nine (9) credits toward the MPH degree for coursework taken as part of the MSS degree program, and eligible JCPH MPH students will receive credit toward the MSS degree for coursework taken as part of the MPH program that is equivalent to three courses taken as part of the MSS degree program. MSS degree students who enrolled in the MSS program in fall 2015 or earlier are eligible to receive up to twelve (12) credits toward the MPH degree that will include B541/B542 Field Education III, IV (practicum) in lieu of the JCPH MPH Clerkship experience. To satisfy the MPH Clerkship requirement, the MSS Field Education practicum (B541/542) must include at least 120 hours in a community-based initiative. Current full-time students must first discuss their application to this degree program with their Faculty Advisor and be recommended to the Dean for eligibility to apply no later than the end of the first week of Semester II classes. The number of applicants eligible to apply is limited. Eligible MSS students must apply to Jefferson by July 1 for fall admission and November 1 for spring admission, and must also apply for financial aid through Jefferson. Transferable MSS classes are: B503/504 Research Informed Practice I & II; B517 Social Policy Foundations; B508 Community Assessment and Strategies: Advocacy and Action; B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression.

Transferring three MSS classes to Jefferson will reduce the cost of the MPH program by 27%.

Full-time students are able to earn both degrees within three academic years. Full-time MSS students take a leave of absence from GSSWSR, they complete their MPH course work at Jefferson. The following academic year, students return to GSSWSR to complete the second year of their MSS program, as well as their MPH Capstone project, and earn both degrees that spring.

Students may also apply to Jefferson after graduating from the MSS program. MSS graduates (again within the past five years) are eligible to receive transfer credit for three of the transferable classes listed above.

Each academic year, JCPH will make available a partial merit scholarship to an eligible GSSWSR student or recent alumnus who is accepted into the JCPH MPH program and meets established criteria for the award.

Program Information for JCPH/MPH Students: Transfer Credits

Jefferson MPH students who wish to complete the MSS degree are eligible to transfer the equivalent of three courses from the MPH curriculum into Bryn Mawr’s MSS program. This reduces the number of units required to complete the MSS from 18 to 15 and reduces the cost of the program by 17%.

The courses eligible for transfer include:

- Health Research Methods (PBH 510)
- Basic Public Health Statistics (PBH 504)
- One of the following: Public Health Policy and Advocacy (PBH 509), Health Communications and Social Marketing (PBH 511), Qualitative Research Methods (PBH 512), or Dimensions of Global Health (PBH 514)

The completion of the dual degrees takes approximately three (full-time students) or four (part-time students) years.

- First year or first two years: MPH students complete all coursework for the MPH degree.
- Next two years: MPH students complete MSS curriculum while preparing and finishing their MPH Capstone project.

MPH students typically choose to complete their MPH degree at Jefferson before applying to the GSSWSR for the MSS degree.
MSS Fellowship Funds

Every year, GSSWSR students meeting the criteria below may apply for a GSSWSR fellowship grant to help defray costs associated with participation in activities to enhance their social work education. These activities may include presenting papers at conferences or the spring policy trips (to DC, Harrisburg, SW day at the UN, etc.) or other conferences. Each student may request funds for one conference or event per academic year.

These funds may not be used for the following:

• Membership fees unless you are presenting at the conference. This will be determined by the Dean on a case-by-case basis.
• Programs, conferences, or seminars in which you will be provided CEUs.
• ProDev courses including licensure prep.

A limited number of fellowships are available and will be granted on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Eligible students may request up to $200.00 total for the academic year (with the exception of students attending the policy trip and SW on the Hill who are eligible for an additional $100.00). The request must be made prior to the conference/activity via an email to the Dean and/or the Administrative Assistant to the Dean. Please include the title of the conference/program, dates, the estimated costs, and a brief statement of the enhancement you will receive by attending this conference/program.

Students must meet the following criteria:

• Students must email the Dean and request use of fellowship funds before the conference, trip, trainings, etc.
• Be currently enrolled in GSSWSR.
• Have good academic standing (i.e., not have received any U grades in the past year).
• Received approval from field instructor or course instructor for any absences.
• Funding is reserved for students who have not received any funding in the two years prior to this request.
• Submit a written paragraph about your learning experience to the Dean’s Office after the conference/program.

All expenses must be paid by the student up front. The Request for Fellowship Funds form is to be submitted with original receipts within 3 weeks after the event to Sue Edgerton, Administrative Assistant to the Dean.

• All receipts must include itemized detail (i.e., a restaurant receipt must list items purchased by the student—excluding alcohol).
• Meals will be reimbursed at the actual cost including up to a 20% tip but must be within a reasonable amount for the geographic region of the event.
• Alcohol is not a reimbursable expense.
• No bank statements will be accepted as receipts.
• If you shared a hotel room we must have a separate receipt for your portion of the hotel room, with your name on the receipt. Hotels will issue separate receipts upon request.
REQUEST FOR FELLOWSHIP FUNDS FORM

Please complete information requested below, attach receipts, and return to Sue Edgerton, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, after attending your conference/event.

Deadline: The third Monday of the month in order to receive reimbursement the first week of the following month.

Student Name ____________________________________________

BMC ID# ________________________________________________

Event name ______________________________________________

Location _________________________________________________

Date of Event ____________________________________________

Relevance to SW __________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Expense Amount __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Students must complete this form after the event to receive reimbursement for expenses incurred up to the amount specified on the instruction sheet. Be sure to attach all original receipts and the approval email from the Dean.

For Office use only:

☐ Received (date) __________________

☐ Approved (date) ________________

☐ Not Approved and Why ________________________________________________
Named Scholar Opportunities

A large portion of the GSSWSR’s institutional financial aid funding (our “discount rate”) comes from scholarships established by alumnae/i, friends, parents, corporations and foundations. Students may be eligible to become a Named Scholar at the GSSWSR based on criteria specified by the donors, such as home state/region, course of study, and special areas of interest. This is not an opportunity for increased funding, but being a “Named Scholar” is something that could be placed on your resume, and also helps to provide donors with information about how students are benefitting from donor philanthropic giving.

To be considered, students will need to provide information to help connect them to available opportunities for becoming a “Named Scholar.” All information is confidential.

To learn more, please go to: https://brynmawr.wufoo.com/forms/m1qbveqw1qnpye5/.

Please note: some of the “Named Scholars” are based on specific criteria and/or areas of interest. Please be sure to indicate if you are a single parent, or have interests in Gerontology, LGBTQ, Social Justice and Inclusion, and/or Child Mental Health.
Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (PhD)

Overview

The doctoral program at the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) of Bryn Mawr College is designed to support the development of leaders in social work education and research. Effective leaders must be skilled at knowing how to ask the right questions, gather evidence systematically, and interpret it critically and with sophistication. In addition, they must communicate effectively, presenting ideas persuasively for a variety of audiences. At the GSSWSR, doctoral education in social work focuses on the development of these skills in the context of a rigorous examination of social and behavioral theory, as well as both qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

Founded during the tumult of Progressive Era reform, the program has a long and distinguished record. Indeed, the very first doctoral degree in Social Work awarded by a college or university in the United States was awarded at Bryn Mawr in 1920.

Doctoral education at Bryn Mawr is demanding; it is also rewarding. The School has a productive, multidisciplinary faculty whose members work closely with students in small classes. Additionally, doctoral students have many opportunities to work with faculty and graduate students in other departments at Bryn Mawr College. While admission is highly selective, the environment is friendly and supportive. The concern with strengthening a caring society as a whole is reflected in a caring community at Bryn Mawr in which people value each other yet insist on intellectual growth and critical exchange. The curriculum reflects GSSWSR's commitment to academic rigor, innovation, and leadership. Sophisticated training in behavioral and social theory, research methodology, and data analysis has been present since the School's founding. Bryn Mawr was among the first doctoral programs in social work to offer formal instruction in clinical research.

Today, in addition, training in qualitative analysis complements multivariate statistical instruction. A faculty of renowned scholars bring intellectual excitement to the classroom as well as a commitment to addressing the pressing questions, problems, and dilemmas confronting the United States and the international community. Doctoral students come from all over the world and have been awarded national and international fellowships, including those from foundations, the Council of Social Work Education, as well as Fulbright, Doris Duke, and Woodrow Wilson Fellowships.

However, with its emphasis on theory and method, the curriculum is designed to promote the development of a strong foundation for research and teaching. Successful completion of the GSSWSR PhD presumes the demonstration of scholarly abilities to pursue knowledge, engage in abstract and logical thinking, and critically evaluate ideas and evidence.

Program Information

Bryn Mawr admits a small group of students (3-4) to the PhD program for either full-time or part-time study. Part-time study entails enrollment in at least two courses a semester. Full-time study entails enrollment in three courses a semester. Tuition costs for up to six courses per year are awarded to each student while the student is in coursework. Enrollment in four courses in a given semester is considered an overload and requires advisor approval. A minimum of four semesters of class work is required for the degree. Students have a maximum of eight years to finish the doctoral program inclusive of the dissertation process. Within this timeframe, particular guidelines have been set for the completion of each phase of the program (coursework, preliminary examinations, dissertation proposal, and dissertation). Please consult the operating procedures for the PhD program for further details.

Curriculum

The PhD curriculum emphasizes theory and an unbiased approach to methods, and seeks to integrate the domains of social work and social welfare. PhD students must complete a total of 12 courses including ten required courses and two electives. The required courses are designed to balance theoretical training, training in data collection methods, and quantitative and qualitative analysis. Required courses ensure that each candidate leaves Bryn Mawr with the intellectual preparation essential to beginning a successful scholarly career in social work and social welfare. Electives provide opportunities for advanced study. Doctoral students may take electives by taking courses in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Bryn Mawr and at the University of Pennsylvania, adapting a GSSWSR MSS course for doctoral credit, and/or arranging for tutorials with individual faculty members.

The 10 required courses are:

B675 Introduction to the History of American Social Welfare and Social Reform
B676 Pedagogy
B681 Social Theory
In consultation with a faculty advisor, each doctoral student builds on the foundation established by the required courses. Electives provide opportunity for advanced study.

**Foreign Language Requirement**

There is no foreign language requirement.

**Comprehensive Exams**

Students must take and pass their comprehensive exams in August following the completion of the sequence of classes for the exam. In the August following the completion of the following sets of courses, comprehensive exams will be given for each set of courses. These sets of courses are:

- Data Analysis I (SW 682) and Data Analysis II (SW 683)
- Research Methods I (SW 685) and Research Methods II (SW 686)
- Qualitative Methods (SW 684) and Qualitative Analysis (SW 694)
- Social Theory (SW 681), Developmental Theory and Translational Research in Social Work (SW 680), and Introduction to History of American Social Welfare and Reform (SW 675).

Students must receive a “satisfactory” grade on each of these four comprehensive exams to continue in the program.

**Admission to Candidacy**

When course requirements are nearly completed, students apply to the Doctoral Faculty for formal admission to candidacy for the degree. A Supervising Committee is then formed to evaluate the student’s performance on the comprehensive examinations and to guide work toward the dissertation. The Supervising Committee consists of a Director of Work plus two additional faculty members and an outside Chair, who is a member of Bryn Mawr College’s faculty of Arts and Sciences. Please consult the operating procedures of the PhD program for more details regarding comprehensive examinations and the formation of supervising committees.

**Preliminary Paper Examination**

The preliminary examination paper takes the form of a lengthy essay/paper. This paper is designed to allow students to demonstrate scholarly independence in the student’s anticipated substantive area. A primary goal of the preliminary exam paper is to afford students the opportunity to develop a clear conceptual framework in an area of substantive interest and to utilize this framework to inform practice, research and/or policy in this area of work. Students are advised to use the preliminary exam paper as a basis for their dissertation work, although this is not a requirement.

This preliminary exam paper may be no longer than 30 pages, double-spaced, must comply with the most recent APA guidelines, and must include an abstract. The 30 pages include reference pages, titles, and all other written work.

**Dissertation Proposal**

Before proceeding to the actual dissertation work, students meet with their Supervising Committee to review a proposal summarizing the scope of the proposed research and the method(s) to be followed. Well in advance of the meeting, the student distributes the proposal to committee members. Before scheduling a meeting, and in consultation with the Director of Work, the student will ascertain the opinion of committee members regarding whether or not the proposal is ready for discussion. The student then sets the meeting time after consulting with committee members regarding their schedules. Once a dissertation proposal is approved by the Supervising Committee, students are expected to keep committee members informed of all substantial changes.

All dissertation proposals must undergo review by the College’s Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects.
Submission of Dissertation

Dissertations must be submitted by a specific date in order to qualify for the award of May or December degrees. These dates are stated annually on the Academic Calendar and may vary from one year to another. After the dissertation has been received by members of the Supervising Committee, it is either accepted or rejected with recommendations for revision. Once a dissertation is accepted by the committee, the student proceeds to the oral Final Examination on the content of the dissertation. Additional information about degree requirements will be found in the PhD Operating Procedures manual. Questions may be referred to faculty advisors, to the Director of the PhD Program, or to the Dean.

Enrolled PhD students are expected to refer to the PhD Operating Procedures manual for detailed information on the program. This document can be found on the web site: https://www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/degree-programs/doctoral-program-social-work/curriculum.

PhD Fellowships: AY 2018/19

For academic year 2018/19, $800 of fellowship money is available for each PhD student. This fellowship money may be used toward attending conferences, seminars and/or professional development. The PhD student may be serving on a discussion panel, presenting a poster or a paper, speaking at a session or attending a program related to their dissertation topic for professional development.

First, the PhD student must get permission from the Dean to apply for the fellowship fund, prior to attending the conference/program. This may be done by way of sending the Dean an email, providing the Dean with the name of the program/conference, location, date/time, and their involvement in the conference.

All expenses must be paid for by the PhD student first. After the conference students submit a request for reimbursement.

- The receipts for credit cards must include itemized details, i.e., a restaurant receipt must have a list of beverage and food items purchased, in addition to the credit card receipt in which you may have added a tip. Thus, restaurant receipts charged on a credit card must have both receipts.
- Meals will be reimbursed at the actual cost, including up to a 20% tip. The meal must be within a reasonable amount for the location of travel.
- Alcohol is a non-reimbursable expense.
- No bank statements will be accepted as receipts.
- If you shared a hotel room, you must submit a receipt for your portion of the hotel room only and it must have your name on the receipt. Please have the hotel prepare separate receipts for each person in the room. Hotels will do this upon request.

The PhD student completes the “PhD Reimbursement Form,” and submits it to the Dean’s Administrative Assistant (Sue Edgerton) along with all original receipts and a copy of the permission from the Dean approving the student’s reimbursement.

All requests for reimbursement must be within the current semester of the current academic year (i.e., summer semester through spring semester). Do not delay until the next semester or hold over the summer until fall semester.

All materials must be submitted to the Dean’s Administrative Assistant by the 3rd Monday of each month in order to receive reimbursement the following month.

Reimbursement checks are sent to the student’s mailing address as indicated on the PhD Reimbursement Form.

Should you have any questions about the process, please contact the Dean’s Administrative Assistant, Sue Edgerton at sedgerton@brynmawr.edu, or 610-520-2611.
## PhD Reimbursement Form

Please complete this form. Attach all original receipts and a copy of your permission from the Dean approving your conference reimbursement. **All requests must be made within the current academic year and the current semester. Do not delay** until the next semester.

**Deadline:** The third Monday of the month in order to receive reimbursement the following month.

### Student Information

- **Student Name:**
- **BMC ID:**
- **Mailing Address:**

### Event Details

**Name of Event, Location & Date:**

### GSSWSR Travel Expense Summary

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**Total meals for self:**
- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

**Conf. Reg. fee**

**Other**

**Total Expenses**

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**Student Signature** ____________________________ **Date** __________

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For Office use only:

- **Date Forwarded to Controller’s Office**
- **Total Amount Approved to be reimbursed:** $ __________
STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Equal Opportunity

Bryn Mawr College is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all members of its faculty, staff and student body. Bryn Mawr College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age or disability in the administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other College-administered programs, or in its employment practices.

In conformity with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is also the policy of Bryn Mawr College not to discriminate on the basis of sex in its employment practices, educational programs or activities. The admission of only women in the Undergraduate College is in conformity with a provision of the Civil Rights Act. The provisions of Title IX protect students and employees from all forms of illegal sex discrimination, which includes sexual harassment and sexual violence, in College programs and activities.

Inquiries regarding compliance with this legislation and other policies regarding non-discrimination may be directed to the Equal Opportunity Officer (eoo@brynmawr.edu or 610-526-7630) or the Title IX Coordinator (titleix_coordinator@brynmawr.edu or 610-526-7630), who administer the College’s procedures.

Standards of Professional Behavior for All Contributing Members of the GSSWSR Community

Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) is committed to the education of Social Work professionals through the acquisition and integration of social work knowledge, values, and skills. Members of the GSSWSR Community are expected to meet the following standards of behavior in the classroom, in the field, and in the world at large. Attention to these standards is part of the official evaluation of students undertaken by Faculty, Field Instructors, and Field Liaisons and are markers of excellence for all in our Community.

Accountability: Inside and outside of the classroom, GSSWSR Community members exhibit behaviors that are in compliance with institutional policies, academic practices, and societal laws, while practicing within the scope of the profession of social work and adhering to the profession’s code of ethics. Within the classroom, field, and community, all responsibilities are met in a timely manner. In the classroom setting, students attend class regularly and complete assignments promptly, working independently unless otherwise instructed, and in written work properly attribute all sources of information using APA-style citations and referencing. In the field setting, students meet all field commitments including being punctual and dependable, keeping appointments, maintaining confidentiality, and knowing that appearance, dress, and general demeanor are reflective of professional behavior. Students demonstrate a willingness to fully utilize supervision and feedback to enhance their professional development and when having difficulties seek appropriate support to ensure success in completing course and field placement requirements.

Respect: Members of the GSSWSR community treat all those with whom they come in contact with dignity and respect and approach conflict with others in a cooperative manner. Engaging in honest dialogue, GSSWSR Community members are active listeners and strive to use positive and nonjudgmental language.

Confidentiality: Personal information about any member of the GSSWSR community or client is held as confidential, respecting as privileged any personal information shared in class or in the field. Names of clients or other client-identifying information are not disclosed in the classroom or in conversations outside of the professional setting.

Interpersonal Skills

• Self-Awareness: GSSWSR Community members know how their values, attitudes, beliefs, emotions, and past experiences affect their thought processes, behavior, and relationships. As professional Social Workers, everyone must be willing to examine and change their behavior when it interferes with work with colleagues, clients, and others and are able to work effectively with those in supervisee positions as well as with those in authority.

• Empathy: GSSWSR Community members strive to comprehend another individual’s way of life and values, both in the field and in the classroom. All members are able to communicate empathy and support as a basis for productive professional relationships.
• Objectivity: Social Work students must be sufficiently objective to evaluate client systems systematically in an unbiased, factual way.

Professional Commitment to Ethical Behavior: The GSSWSR Social Worker must have a strong commitment to the standards and ethics of the Social Work profession. As such, GSSWSR Community members commit to the basic and essential Social Work values, which include respecting the dignity and worth of every individual and the individual’s right to a just share of society’s resources. While deepening their commitment to social justice for all marginalized populations and other people at risk, Community members’ values and actions reflect integrity, which includes honesty with self and all others. With authentic and continuous self-development as a goal, members of the GSSWSR Community recognize, accept, and benefit from constructive feedback.

Honoring of Differences and Recognition of Similarities: In accordance with Social Work ethics, all in the GSSWSR Community appreciate the values of human diversity and multiculturalism. They serve in an appropriate manner all persons in need of assistance, regardless of the individual’s age, class, race, ethnicity, political and religious affiliations (or lack thereof), gender, sexual and gender identities and orientation, ability, and value system.

Ethics

All new students are given a copy of the National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics and return a form verifying that they have read it. This document is used frequently, especially in MSS Practice classes.

To fulfill a graduation requirement, all MSS students must attend a non-credit workshop, Ethics in Social Work Practice (except Advanced Standing Students who are exempt from taking). This workshop is typically held in early January during Winter Break and is offered on several days at varying times to accommodate students’ schedules. All MSS students enrolled in Foundation Practice are required to attend one workshop.

Privacy of Student Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 was designed to protect the privacy of educational records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings. Students have the right to file complaints with the Family Policy Compliance Office, US Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, 20202-5920, concerning alleged failures by the institution to comply with the act. Questions concerning the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act may be referred to the College’s Registrar’s Office.

Directory Information

Bryn Mawr College designates the following categories of student information as public or “directory information”. Such information may be disclosed by the institution for any purpose, at its discretion.

• Category I: Name, address, dates of attendance, class, current enrollment status, electronic mail address
• Category II: Previous institution(s) attended, major field of study, awards, honors, degree(s) conferred
• Category III: Date of birth
• Category IV: Telephone number
• Category V: Marital status

Currently enrolled students may withhold disclosure of any category of information under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 by written notification, which must be in the Registrar’s Office by August 15. Forms requesting the withholding of directory information are available in the Registrar’s Office. Bryn Mawr College assumes that failure on the part of any student to request the withholding of categories of directory information indicates individual approval of disclosure.

Communication

All students are issued a Bryn Mawr College email account. Incoming students receive their passwords and instructions for using their Bryn Mawr email prior to beginning classes. The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research faculty and administrators communicate important information to students via their Bryn
Mawr College email. College email addresses are listed in the on-line Directory, so students may also use them to communicate with each other.

All students are responsible for making sure their Bryn Mawr email is functioning and for frequently checking incoming mail to that account. Students should not forward their Bryn Mawr email to another account as other email providers may block mail from Bryn Mawr.

Students are expected to inform the Dean’s Office of any changes in their phone numbers and addresses and to update this information via self-service in the College’s on-line administrative system, Bionic.brynmawr.edu.

Student Organizations at GSSWSR

Graduate Student Association (GSA)
The Graduate Student Association (GSA) of GSSWSR consists of the entire MSS student body. It is the means by which students participate in many aspects of the School’s Governance and is the best opportunity to participate in the School community beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

Meetings of the GSA are generally held monthly (or as needed). Officers are elected on an annual basis. Communications from the GSA are in the form of periodic emails to the community as well as use of the dedicated bulletin board on the lower level of the GSSWSR and through a Facebook group. The GSA works best when a majority of students participate. Election of GSA officers is held annually in April for the following academic year. They must be current students who are in good academic standing. The School welcomes students’ ideas and energy. To enable the maximum number of students to hold leadership positions, students may only hold one such position at a time unless special permission is granted from the Administrator of Student Services.

Association of Black Social Workers (ABSW)
ABSW is the Bryn Mawr student chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW). The NABSW was formed in 1968 during the Civil Rights Movement, initially as an advocacy group to address social issues and concerns of the Black community. Specifically, it advocates for social change, works toward eliminating racism in the social welfare system and advocates for the inclusion of people of African descent at the decision and policy-making levels. It functions as a change agent in the areas of social work education, practice, and research.

The Bryn Mawr student chapter was founded in 1983 and maintains an ongoing connection with its parent chapter, the Alliance of Black Social Workers, Inc., the Philadelphia Chapter. Amongst other things, it seeks to disseminate and exchange information regarding minority concerns in the field of Social Work in and around Bryn Mawr College and its surrounding communities. Officers are elected on an annual basis, in April, to serve for the following academic year. Meetings are generally held monthly to discuss various fundraising and service opportunities supported by ABSW. Participation in the annual NABSW conference is encouraged and partially supported by ABSW funds as well as fellowships from GSSWSR. Each September, as per the policies of the NABSW, students who identify as being of Black/African descent are invited to become members.

Forming a Student Club at GSSWSR
While the GSA provides many opportunities for active involvement, a group of students may wish to create a Club to address a specific interest that is beyond the focus of the GSA. A Club is a sub-group of the Graduate Student Association. They do not receive independent funding from the school, nor do they have a formally structured governing body like the larger student organizations: GSA and ABSW.

Applications for the formation of a new club are made available and reviewed in the beginning of the fall and spring semesters only, by the Administrator of Student Services & officers of the GSA. Students are encouraged to explore the activities of the GSA and/or ABSW and any club already in existence at GSSWSR before submitting an application to start a new club. If a student finds that these organizations are not able to focus on their area of interest, and they can identify at least 5 like-minded peers, they can choose to apply to create a new club. However, the club must be different than any already existing at GSSWSR.

Applications for forming a new student club are accepted in the beginning of the fall (September 1 - October 30) and spring (January) semesters only. A minimum of five members is required for any new club.

New clubs should submit the New Club Application Form (included below) during the specified times. The members listed as contact persons for the group will be notified via email whether or not their club has been approved, or if anything needs to be clarified.

If funding is desired, the new club must submit a written request to GSA officers for review. All requests for funding are subject to approval by the GSA and Administrator of Student Services and the availability of funds.
GSSWSR Student Club Application Form

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN PETITIONING TO FORM A NEW CLUB AT GSSWSR MUST SUBMIT THIS FORM AFTER HAVING READ THE CRITERIA FOR A NEW CLUB ON OUR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS WEBPAGE (www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/student-resources/student-organizations).

Name of student submitting form

First

Last

Email

Student ID # (required)

Name of Club

Club Statement of Purpose: Please describe in detail the club’s decision making process (majority, consensus, etc.):

Primary Contact

First

Last

Email

Secondary Contact

First

Last

Email

Additional Members (must have a minimum of 5 total (including contacts listed above))

First Last

First Last

Email completed forms to Sarah Slates at ssoles@brynmawr.edu.
Student Participation on Committees

At Bryn Mawr, faculty, staff, and students value each other as colleagues. There are student members on the following GSSWSR standing committees: The Committee on Policy, The Committee on the Master’s Curriculum, The Field Education Advisory Committee, and any constituted Search committees. In addition, there is GSSWSR student representation at the monthly meetings of the full-time Faculty, on the School’s Board of Advisors, Bryn Mawr College Board of Trustees, the College Ad Hoc Commencement Committee, College Budget Committee, and the College Diversity Council. GSSWSR workgroups and ad hoc committees may also have student representation.

Generally, students participating on committees must have completed one year in the program. The Committee on Policy includes one returning MSS student and one returning PhD student; the Committee on the Master’s Curriculum includes two returning MSS students; Faculty Search committees include one returning MSS student and one returning PhD student. Every fall, opportunities to serve on all committees are emailed to all students, and interested students may sign-up by emailing the Administrator of Student Services or GSA representative. The final selection of MSS student representatives may be made in collaboration with the Student Association. Student members of the various committees (report back to the Graduate Student Association and on some occasions, survey the student body or facilitate focus groups on various curricular or policy issues.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes at the graduate level. A significant amount of material is missed when they are unable to attend class. However, when sickness or other circumstances arise that prevent a student from attending class, the instructor must be notified as soon as possible. If a student has three absences in a 14-week class, the instructor will report this to the student’s Faculty Academic Advisor and to the Administrator of Student Services. Three or more absences automatically result in the student appearing before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. The student’s grade in the class may result in a U. For Summer Sessions and 7-week classes, the instructor will report two absences to the Faculty Academic Advisor and the Administrator of Student Services and the student will be referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students.

In Field Education, lack of a field placement assignment for more than one half of the academic semester may be grounds for referral to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and may result in the recommendation of withdrawal from the Field Education and corresponding Practice Courses.

Class Communication

Each class should develop an agreed upon means of communication so that faculty can contact students when a class has to be canceled because of emergencies or bad weather.

Class Cancellation Policy and Procedures

Bad Weather Procedure

The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research uses the services of radio station KYW 1060 AM (kywschools.com) and CBS 3 Eyewitness News to alert you as to whether or not classes will be held. If classes have been canceled, the School’s emergency weather closing number – 415 in Montgomery County – will be read on the radio. Community members outside of KYW’s range may call the College’s Snow Closing Hotline for information at (610) 526-7310; the information on the Snow Closing Hotline is updated hourly. Students may also check https://storm.brynmawr.edu for weather updates. Please note that the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research may close even when the College remains open.
School Policy on Observation of Religious Holidays

Occasionally, students in the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research miss class to observe religious holidays not recognized in our present College calendar. The following accommodations should be made whenever possible, either singly or in combination, depending on student needs and circumstances:

- In the case of a multi-section course, arrangements may be made for the student(s) to attend a section that meets on a different day.
- If recording is an accepted practice in a given class, arrangements may be made for another student to record the class for the absent student(s) and/or to share class notes.
- Faculty may share instructional notes with absent student(s).
- Faculty may meet with the absent student(s) at an agreed-upon date and time to discuss material presented during the missed class.
- If a large number of students in a class will be absent in order to observe a specific religious holiday, and if the instructor and all class members come to a consensus about rescheduling, the class may be rescheduled. It is the responsibility of the instructor to inform the Dean’s Office of all rescheduled classes.

These accommodations are not considered requirements; faculty and students are encouraged to consider alternative accommodations as appropriate. Students are responsible for communicating with their instructors in a timely manner about any upcoming absence related to religious holiday observance. Faculty are responsible for discussing possible accommodations with students who plan to miss class to observe religious holidays, and for helping them develop a plan that fits the situation.
STUDENT SUPPORT

Access Services

Bryn Mawr College welcomes the full participation of individuals with different abilities in all aspects of campus life. The Access Services office in Guild Hall provides support and reasonable accommodations for eligible students, employees, and guests with disabilities. Individuals who think they may need accommodations because of a learning, physical, or psychological disability are encouraged to contact the Coordinator of Access Services as early as possible to discuss their concerns.

Like other services at Bryn Mawr, Access Services strives to respond to each person’s concerns individually. Reasonable accommodations are provided, when necessary, to minimize the impact of a disability in the campus environment as much as possible, and to ensure equal access to our programs, services, activities, and employment opportunities. They include the elimination of physical barriers to campus buildings and facilities whenever possible, as well as appropriate academic and workplace adjustments. Current relevant documentation from a qualified professional is required to support a request for accommodations. We will protect the confidentiality of any information shared.

For additional information, contact:
Access Services
Bryn Mawr College
Eugenia Chase Guild Hall
101 N. Merion Avenue
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Email: Deb Alder, Coordinator Telephone: 610-526-7351

Advising

At the beginning of each student’s course of study, students are assigned a Faculty Academic Advisor through the Dean’s office. That Advisor will work with the student during their enrollment at Bryn Mawr. Advisors help in orienting the student to the School and College, its curriculum and its policies, providing educational guidance in the selection of a student’s course of study, identifying resources for resolving problems that may be interfering with the student’s educational performance, and discussing and evaluating career goals.

In the Master’s program, Advisors are responsible for reviewing the academic performance of students during and at the end of each semester. Advisors may discuss any performance issues with advisees and inform the Assistant Dean, who oversees advisement, when performance concerns place a student in academic jeopardy. If a student is referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students, their Advisor is asked to join the student at the meeting.

Incoming MSS students initially meet their Advisors during Orientation. During the mid-semester advising period, students are expected to meet individually with their Advisors to discuss preliminary career goals, future courses, a tentative plan of study, and performance in class and field.

Returning students in the Master’s program are also required to meet with their Advisors during the mid-semester advising period. During that meeting, students may wish to discuss performance in class and in field, the past semester’s evaluations, any difficulties or matters affecting performance in class or field, and a plan of study for the second semester. Students will find their assigned Faculty Academic Advisor by signing onto their Bionic account. If a Faculty member goes on leave, students will be reassigned to another Advisor at the beginning of the semester in which the leave is taking place.

It is the student’s responsibility to make an appointment with their assigned Advisor during the advising period. If, after meeting with the Advisor, a student feels that there are issues needing further clarification, the student can make an appointment to meet with the Administrator of Student Services.

Students Bringing Guests to Meetings:

If a student wishes to bring another individual to a scheduled meeting with faculty or staff, the student is expected to inform the person who has called the meeting beforehand, with the understanding that this individual would attend in a supportive role as observer and not to engage as a participant in the conversation.

In the Doctoral Program, during Orientation incoming PhD students will meet with their Advisors to review their class schedule. Doctoral program Advisors are responsible for reviewing the progress of their advisees.
at the end of each semester and for reporting to the Doctoral Faculty any student who is in academic jeopardy.

The Advisor recommends a student for candidacy upon completion of course requirements. A more detailed discussion of doctoral program matters can be found in the GSSWSR Operating Procedures Manual of the PhD program.

**Career Development Services at GSSWSR**

Mindful of the profession’s unique partnership between academic and practice settings, the School offers students and alumni the resources and expertise of specialized career development services. At the GSSWSR, Social Work careers are conceptualized as a developmental process, beginning prior to graduate study and extending indefinitely over the span of a career. The School’s on-site Career Counselor along with Faculty Academic Advisors and the Bryn Mawr Alumnae/i Network provide support, training, and individual assistance with career-related issues and place an emphasis on professional networking and development of lifelong career skills.

**Individual Career Advising**

The GSSWSR Career Counselor and Writing Coach is located in our building to facilitate easy access. In addition to personal and confidential career counselling, coaching on resume writing, cover letter writing, job search and interviewing strategies are integral to the service model for current GSSWSR students and alumni.

**Career Workshops**

Planned conveniently during students’ class breaks throughout the fall and spring semesters, GSSWSR Career Development Services offers workshops developed according to student needs and in alignment with CSWE practice behaviors and core competencies for personal and professional growth as a Social Worker. Workshops address social work specific career development topics such as: strengths identification, Social Work career paths, earning a license, resume and cover letter format and content, interviewing skills and job search strategies. The schedule of career workshops will be distributed each semester.

**Networking Contacts**

Many alumni from the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research and from Bryn Mawr College are willing to share information about their professional experiences. Our alumni are among our most valued resources. If you are evaluating career opportunities, seeking information about employers or wish to learn more about a professional role, the advice of experienced alumni can be a rich resource. Using Athena’s Web online alumni directory advanced search feature, you may locate information about all Bryn Mawr College alumni working in your field of interest. Access Athena’s Web and College Alumnae Career Services at [https://www.brynmawr.edu/alumnae/services-and-benefits](https://www.brynmawr.edu/alumnae/services-and-benefits). If you are a new user, follow the instructions to register.

While at this site, be sure to update your own information profile in the directory. Bryn Mawr alumni groups also connect on LinkedIn.

**Business Cards**

Every fall, all incoming students are offered a set of free Bryn Mawr College business cards, personalized with their name, degree, concentration and contact information. Useful in field placement, conference, interview and training settings, the calling-cards are immediately useful to promote a professional presentation for networking and other outreach endeavors.

**Letters of Reference Service**

As part of the Bryn Mawr College Leadership, Innovation and Liberal Arts Center (LILAC), the Career Planning Office offers a “credentials” service whereby you may store your letters of reference. Upon request, letters of recommendation may be forwarded on your behalf to potential employers or to graduate schools. Learn more about the service and download forms at: [https://www.brynmawr.edu/lilac/credentials-files](https://www.brynmawr.edu/lilac/credentials-files).

**Employment Opportunity Job Boards**

Through the year, the GSSWSR learns of jobs from many employers via multiple sources including alumnae/i in various agencies. These jobs are forwarded to an online, password protected job board. The job board offers full and part-time job listings for Master’s and PhD prepared social work professionals across a wide spectrum of categories. Access this resource from the GSSWSR homepage ([https://www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/student-resources/career-services](https://www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/student-resources/career-services)). For password information, please contact the GSSWSR Career Counselor at (610) 520-2615 or talk with the Career Counselor in Room G9 at our School.
Career Information and Jobs Fair
Located on-site at the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, the annual GSSWSR Career Information and Jobs Fair held each March, hosts 30+ employers who come to campus specifically to meet with Bryn Mawr’s Social Work students; many with job openings for graduating students. GSSWSR alumni are also invited to attend.

Membership in Professional Organizations
Students are urged to join one or more related professional organizations, such as the National Association of Social Workers, Council on Social Work Education, Association of Black Social Workers, Clinical Social Work Association, the National Network for Social Work Managers, the Association for Community Organization and Social Administration, the Pennsylvania Society for Clinical Social Work, American Public Welfare Association, Child Welfare League of America, and the Gerontological Society.

These organizations give students an immediate opportunity to participate in professional activities and thereby to influence the future of social work as well as the opportunity to work with leaders in the field. Many organizations offer reduced rates for students and provide a number of benefits, including publications and insurance programs.

Center for Professional Development (ProDev)
The Center for Professional Development (ProDev) at Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research seeks to enhance the career-long learning objectives of professional social workers, counselors, and marriage and family therapists. ProDev trainings offer a broad range of opportunities for personal reflection and enrichment in areas ranging from ethical principles that guide professional practice to dimensions of diversity that characterize and shape the human experience. Social and economic justice are addressed in half and full-day workshops; certificate programs combine knowledge with essential skills and values so that professionals are equipped with tools that may be applied to their mission of enhancing clients’ personal capacities to resolve life’s challenges. ProDev faculty are experienced and employ both didactic and experiential teaching methods. In addition, ProDev provides continuing education credits through co-sponsorship agreements with other providers in the region. Workshops are designed to include offerings of interest to those working in clinical practice, social service management, community practice, policy and advocacy, and program development.

Registration is limited. For further information, contact the Center for Professional Development at 610-520-2602 or visit the website at www.brynmawr.edu/swprodev.

Licensure
While all states have legal regulation of Social Workers, each state establishes its own requirements.

To be licensed in most states, Social Workers must pass an examination and provide references and a school transcript to the state board of social work examiners. It is the responsibility of the student to learn the requirements for licensure in the state in which the student intends to practice. The GSSWSR Career Counselor in room G9 can assist in gathering information about individual state requirements.

In Pennsylvania, the Licensed Social Worker license is granted after applying to the state, passing the Master’s level exam administered by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and providing documentation of graduation from an accredited graduate school of Social Work. The advanced Licensed Clinical Social Worker license (LCSW) may be earned after acquiring the LSW, completing 3,000 supervised clinical hours, and applying to take the clinical-level exam. Licensure requirements for states outside of Pennsylvania may be found on the ASWB website at www.aswb.org/ and/or at www.socialworklicensure.org/.

Meeting Licensure Requirements through Continuing Education
Pennsylvania and most other states require continuing education for social work license renewal. As a CSWE accredited program, the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research at Bryn Mawr College is a pre-approved provider of continuing education for social workers in Pennsylvania and many other states.

Social Work License Information and Exam Preparation
The GSSWSR Center for Professional Development offers numerous opportunities for its graduates and those of other schools of social work to attend one-day preparation courses designed to prepare individuals for the LSW and LCSW examinations. Special attention is given to practice theory, social work terminology, therapeutic strategies, treatment, practice techniques, ethics, social work values, DSM-5, psychopharmacology, as well as diversity sensitive practice. A study guide is included in the cost of the course.
Post-Graduate Certificate Programs Offered through the Center for Professional Development

- Certificate Program for Home and School Visitor (MSS courses as well as Professional Development workshops)
- Certificate in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Certificate in Advanced Clinical Practice with Adolescents
- Certificate in Trauma

Professional Liability Coverage

All students enrolled in Field Education are covered by professional liability insurance designed in cooperation with the National Association of Social Workers Insurance Trust and administered by the American Professional Agency Inc. This insurance protects students for duties performed as part of their field placement during hours required toward the MSS degree. The School does not assume liability for injury to, or caused by, the student when in their field placement. If students are expected to use their own automobiles as part of their field placement, the student should check with the agency to learn about their policy regarding reimbursement and insurance coverage.

Student Health Insurance

All graduate students are required to have health insurance and complete the online insurance registration process (https://www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/health-insurance). During the process, students will be asked to provide either information on their current medical insurance coverage, or to confirm enrollment in the College-sponsored Graduate Student Health Insurance Plan.

If the registration process is not completed by the deadline, students will be automatically enrolled in the College’s Insurance Plan and obliged to pay its costs. All students must either accept or waive the College insurance. After the deadline, if you have not waived it, your automatic enrollment in the College Plan is final and cannot be changed, whether or not you have obtained other insurance.

The cost of health insurance premiums will be billed to students by Bryn Mawr and will be payable to Bryn Mawr College. A charge will be automatically billed to your student account each semester.

Summer Academic Workshop Program

The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research offers a unique non-credit Summer Graduate School Transition Workshop Program to all newly enrolled students entering the GSSWSR in the fall. The program also welcomes currently enrolled students. The program focuses on developing skills in addressing assignments, writing, research, classroom participation, time management, APA style basics, punctuation and grammar.

This program is especially helpful to newly enrolled students who:

- Have not been involved in higher education for five years or more
- Will be balancing work and family responsibilities along with education
- Have had little experience in academic writing

*Note: Support of the Writing Coach is available during the academic year for all enrolled MSS students.*

Writing Lab

The Writing Coach is available to support GSSWSR students who wish to sharpen their writing skills in order to perform at appropriate academic and professional levels. Practice in the usage of Standard English grammar, instruction in scholarly writing relative to sentence and paragraph construction and discussion of APA style and plagiarism are included. Schedule an appointment with the Writing Coach at 610-520-2615.
ADDITIONAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE RESOURCES

Campus Safety

Emergency Contact Information

From an on campus phone line or phone box: x7911. Off-campus: (610) 526-7911. If off-campus and police assistance is required: dial 911.

Campus Crime Awareness/Clery Act and Higher Education Opportunity Act

Bryn Mawr College is committed to assisting all members of the community in providing for their own safety and security. The website for the Department of Campus Safety (https://www.brynmawr.edu/safety) contains information regarding campus security and personal safety. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacted the College and University Security Act in 1988 (Clery Act) and the Higher Education Opportunity Act in 2008. These laws require all institutions of higher education within the Commonwealth to provide students and employees with information pertaining to crime statistics, security measures, fire statistics, fire safety measures, policies relating to missing persons, and penalties for drug use. These acts also require that this information be available to prospective students and employees upon request. Should you have questions please contact the Department of Campus Safety at (610) 526-7911 or go to https://www.brynmawr.edu/safety.

Student ID Cards

All newly enrolled GSSWSR students are required to obtain a College identification card called OneCard. OneCard provides easy and direct access to various College resources, including building access into the GSSWSR. More information can be found on the web (www.brynmawr.edu/onecard/).

Parking

All members of the College community who wish to park on campus, including the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, must register their vehicles with the Department of Campus Safety and purchase a parking permit. GSSWSR students should use the Commuter Student Parking Application: https://www.brynmawr.edu/safety/parking/commuter-student-parking-application.

Purchase of a parking permit does not guarantee a parking space. Fees for the parking decals that you request will be billed to your Bryn Mawr account. Should you have any other questions pertaining to parking rules and regulations, please go to https://www.brynmawr.edu/safety.

Safe Rides

The College partners with a local cab company to ensure the safe return of students to campus in the event that they are not able to return to campus on their own. Students wishing to use the service must contact Campus Safety to request transport, and Campus Safety will contact the cab company on behalf of the student. The cab fare is charged to the student’s account.

The Department of Campus Safety provides a free shuttle service to and from local train lines and various campus locations. Students can request a ride by contacting Campus Safety. During the fall of 2018, the GSSWSR will start a pilot program offering van transportation to/from the Rosemont Station, Tuesday-Thursday from 4 pm-9 pm.

The College provides free bus transportation to and from nearby Haverford College regularly throughout the day and evening. Students wishing to attend a party or event at Haverford College can do so without using personal transportation.

Lost And Found

Lost items (i.e., car keys, books, purses, wallets) can be reported, and found items brought to the Dean’s Office. After hours, any urgent queries regarding lost or found items should be directed to the Department of Campus Safety at (610) 526-7300.
Libraries

The Mariam Coffin Canaday Library is the center of Bryn Mawr’s library system. Opened in 1970, it houses the College’s holdings in the humanities and the social sciences. The award-winning Rhys Carpenter Library, opened in 1997, is located in the Old Library building and houses the collections in Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Classics, History of Art, and Growth and Structure of Cities. The Lois and Reginald Collier Science Library was dedicated in 1993 and brings together the collections for Mathematics and the sciences. The library collections of Haverford and Swarthmore Colleges, which complement and augment those of Bryn Mawr, are freely accessible to students.

Tripod (https://tripod.brynmawr.edu), the online public access catalog, provides information about the more than three million books, journals, videos, sound recordings, and other materials in the Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore College collections. A large percentage of the Tri-College holdings are accessible online.

Bryn Mawr students may use the Haverford and Swarthmore libraries and may also have material transferred from either of the other two campuses for pickup or use at Bryn Mawr, usually in less than 24 hours. Through the Library’s home page (http://www.brynmawr.edu/lits/), students may connect to Tripod; explore more than 200 subject-specific research databases; and tap into other library services and resources such as reference services, research consultation, reserve readings, interlibrary loan, etc.

Bryn Mawr maintains extensive relationships with other major academic libraries both in the region and worldwide. Through the consortial EZ-Borrow system, students can borrow materials from more than 30 academic libraries in the mid-Atlantic region. Students may also request items from libraries across North America through interlibrary loan.

Additional information about Bryn Mawr’s libraries and services may be accessed on the Web through the library home page at www.brynmawr.edu/library.

Special Collections

The Special Collections Department, based in Canaday Library, houses extensive holdings of art, artifacts, archival materials, rare books, and manuscripts. Objects held in all of these collections are available to students for individual research and are also frequently used as teaching tools in the classroom and incorporated into exhibitions in libraries and other spaces across the campus.

Bryn Mawr has developed an extraordinarily rich Rare Books and Manuscripts collection to support the research interests of students and faculty. The collection of late medieval and Renaissance texts includes one of the country’s largest groups of books printed in the 15th century, as well as manuscript volumes and 16th-century printed books. Other important focuses of the collection are travel and exploration, women writers and women’s lives, the history of archaeology and museums, European and African cities, and important literature in early editions. Complementary to the rare books are collections of original letters, diaries and other unpublished documents. Bryn Mawr has important collections from the late 19th and 20th centuries, including papers and photographs relating to the women’s rights movement; the experiences of women, primarily Bryn Mawr graduates, travelling and working overseas; the papers of playwrights, writers, and scholars; and extensive collections of the letters, diaries, and scholarly works of Bryn Mawr faculty and alumnae.

The College Archives contains the historical records of Bryn Mawr, including the papers of the Presidents, and an extensive photographic collection that documents the social, intellectual, administrative, and personal aspects of campus activities and student life.

The Art and Artifacts collection includes objects of interest to students of anthropology, archaeology, the fine and decorative arts, geology, and related inter- and multi-disciplinary courses of study. The Anthropology collections include objects from around the world, with the largest portion of these collections originating from North America, South America and Africa. These collections comprise numerous categories of objects: African and Oceanic works, Southwest pottery and Native American ritual, functional, and decorative objects, and Pre-Columbian ceramics and textiles from present-day Peru, among many others. The Archaeology collections include an extensive group of Greek and Roman objects, especially vases, pre-classical antiquities, and objects from Egypt and the ancient Near East, many of which represent the interests of Bryn Mawr faculty from the beginnings of the college to the present day.

The Fine Art collections include important holdings of prints, drawings, photographs, paintings and sculpture. The painting collection of approximately 250 works is primarily composed of 19th- and 20th-century American and European works; a highlight is an 1899 portrait by John Singer Sargent. The print collection illustrates the history of Western printmaking from the 15th through the mid-20th centuries and includes Old Master prints, art prints, and examples of 19th-century book illustrations. The collection also includes Japanese ukiyo-e woodblock prints, works in a wide range of media by contemporary women artists, Chinese paintings and calligraphy, and early, modern, and contemporary photography.
Special Research Resources

The Rhys Carpenter Library houses the new Digital Media and Collaboration Lab in the Visual Resources Center, which provides technologically enabled spaces for collaborative work and individual work stations with scanners. Assistance is available for video and image editing. The VRC also supports instruction by providing access to visual media and by facilitating the use of digital tools. Carpenter staff also work with faculty, staff, and students on building digital collections and publishing digital scholarship.

Information Technology

Students have access to a high-speed wireless Internet connection in all residence halls, libraries (which contain public computers), and classrooms throughout the campus. Online course materials, registration, e-mail, shared software and Tripod, the online library catalog system shared by Bryn Mawr, Haverford and Swarthmore Colleges are accessible from a Web browser - many of these are available from off-campus as well. Each new Bryn Mawr student receives their own e-mail and Network file storage accounts upon matriculation (typically late spring).

Professional staff are available to students, faculty and staff for consultation and assistance with their technology needs.

The Help Desk is located on the main floor of Canaday Library and is available during building hours for walk-up help, email and telephone assistance. The Canaday Media Lab, located on Canaday’s A Floor just beyond the Lusty Cup is equipped with advanced software for digitizing and editing text, images, audio and video for the creation of interactive presentations and courseware.

Public computing labs may be found in the following buildings.

• Canaday (1st Floor and A Floor)
• Carpenter (B floor)
• Collier (Park Science Center)
• Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research

Campus Center

The Marie Salant Neuberger Centennial Campus Center, a transformation of the historic gymnasium building on Merion Green, opened in 1985. As the center for non-academic life, the facility houses a café, lounge areas, meeting rooms, the College post office and the Bookshop. The College offices of Career Development and Conferences and Events are also located here. Students, faculty and staff use the campus center for informal meetings and discussion groups as well as for campus-wide social events and activities.

Language Learning Center

The Language Learning Center (LLC) provides the audio-visual and computing resources for learning foreign languages and cultures. Students may use the lab to complete course assignments or simply to explore a foreign culture through film, CDs, DVDs, software programs, the internet or international satellite television.

The Language Learning Center maintains a collection of more than 800 foreign films and has individual and group viewing rooms. The lab is permanently equipped with computers and an instructor workstation to accommodate classes in the center. The LLC supports e-mail, word processing and Internet access in the languages taught at the College. A projection unit enables the lab to be used for demonstration purposes or class use.

The Bern Schwartz Fitness and Athletic Center

The Bern Schwartz Fitness and Athletic Center has quickly become the place to be since reopening in September 2010. The 11,500 sq. ft. fitness center boasts over 50 pieces of cardio equipment, 15 selectorized weight machines and a multi-purpose room which houses everything from broad offerings of physical education classes, Bryn Mawr Fit Club classes, and strength and conditioning sessions for student athletes. The fitness center has over 100 different workout options, free weights, indoor cycling bicycles, ergs, and cardiovascular and strength training machines.

The Class of 1958 Gymnasium is home to the College’s intercollegiate badminton, basketball and volleyball programs and hosts two regulation sized basketball and volleyball courts. In addition, the building includes
a state-of-the art eight lane swimming pool, athletic training room, locker rooms, a conference smart room, and the Department of Athletics & Physical Education offices. The fitness center is located on the second floor directly up the circular staircase as you enter the Bern Schwartz Fitness and Athletic Center. For more information please consult www.brynmawr.edu/athletics/facilities/.

The outdoor athletics and recreation facilities include; Applebee Field, Shillingford Field, seven tennis courts, a recreational and club sport field at the Graduate School of Social Work, and an outdoor track and field practice area. The Applebee Field named for Constance M. K. Applebee, the first director of physical education at the College and credited for bringing field hockey to the United States, was renovated in August 2012. The field was converted from natural grass to a synthetic field, and expanded to meet NCAA requirements for lacrosse, soccer and field hockey.
ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Registration

Incoming students enroll in fall courses during the summer preceding their first semester. Since students will not meet with their Faculty Advisors until Orientation in August, questions regarding course registration will be handled by the Dean’s Office and the Administrator for Student Services.

Spring semester registration materials are available for all returning students by the end of October. Students in their second or third year register online for elective courses, but are pre-enrolled in continuing required courses (all foundation courses, practice concentrations and field education). In March and April, returning students receive registration materials and register online for the subsequent summer and fall semesters.

Enrollment in all classes is limited and subject to the availability of openings in the course. Online registration dates and add/drop deadlines are also listed on the School's Academic Calendar (https://www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/current-students/calendars).

MSS courses are typically offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday evenings to allow ample time for field placements. Students are strongly advised not to schedule all of their courses on the same day.

**BIONIC**: All students are issued an account and password for using BIONIC (https://bionic.brynmawr.edu). Students use BIONIC for a variety of processes and information, including registering for classes, viewing their transcript and their student account, requesting an official transcript, and viewing their paycheck if they are employed on campus. Complete instructions for using BIONIC are on the School’s website.

**Special Courses**: Independent Study, Master’s Papers, master’s students taking doctoral courses, and University of Pennsylvania courses all require prior permission of their Advisor and of the instructor. These courses may **not** be available on BIONIC. Procedures for enrolling in these courses will be included in registration instructions. Before enrolling in these courses students must document appropriate permission. All of these courses are billed the same as regular GSSWSR courses.

Faculty members will offer tutorials only after consultation with the GSSWSR Dean on the availability of teaching time and School policies.

See below for more details on taking courses at the University of Pennsylvania.

University of Pennsylvania Reciprocal Plan

Under the Reciprocal Plan, elective courses at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Arts and Sciences are available to Bryn Mawr graduate students during the academic year.

(Summer courses at the University of Pennsylvania and courses at Penn’s School of Social Policy and Practice are not part of the Reciprocal Plan.) The courses must be related to graduate social work education and approved by the student’s Advisor. All full-time and part-time matriculated students are eligible. Students are strongly advised not to undertake such work during their first year at Bryn Mawr.

The number of courses that may be taken at the University of Pennsylvania is limited to one per semester. Students register with both Bryn Mawr College and the appropriate department at Penn. Tuition, however, is billed through Bryn Mawr College at the GSSWSR rate. Instructions for enrolling in a Penn Course during the scheduled registration period are on the Registrar’s webpage https://www.brynmawr.edu/registrar/graduate-students-registering-penn-classes.

Before enrollment is confirmed, the student must secure permission from their Advisor then proceed to request permission from the professor at Penn to enroll in her/ his course. The student forwards a copy of those permissions (letter or email) to the GSSWSR Dean. Further details are available on the GSSWSR website. The University of Pennsylvania charges a small general fee for the use of the library, a library deposit that is refundable, and fees for late registration.

Collaboration with the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

At Bryn Mawr, we embrace a distinctive academic model that offers a select number of outstanding coeducational graduate programs in arts and sciences and social work in conjunction with an exceptional undergraduate college for women. As such, Bryn Mawr undergraduates have significant opportunities to do advanced work by participating in graduate level courses offered in several academic areas including social
work. Graduate social work students may take graduate courses in the Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS). Students interested in these opportunities should first discuss the course with their Faculty Advisor, whose permission is required along with the permission of the GSAS instructor.

**Add/Drop**

Students may request to change their registration during the Add/Drop period specified in registration materials. Students are required to use an Add/Drop form, available on the School's website under “Current Students/Academic Information”. Students must also use an Add/Drop form for status changes between audit and credit.

The Add/Drop deadline for the Fall 2018 semester is September 14, 2018 and for the Spring 2019 semester the deadline is February 1, 2019. No enrollment may be changed between Audit and Credit status after the deadline date. Any courses dropped after the deadline will become a Permanent Withdrawal grade on the student’s transcript. If students reduce the number of units per semester, the amount of their GSSWSR financial grant will be reduced proportionately. Please see the refund policy in the Financial section.

**Wait Lists**

Each course section has a maximum enrollment capacity. When registering for courses, if the student’s preferred section has reached maximum capacity, they may add their name to a wait list in Bionic. The Dean’s Office will notify students should a space become available. It is important to note that although Bionic reflects a student’s “number ranking” on the wait list, this number is only one of the deciding factors used when the Dean’s Office makes decisions to move a student from the wait list to enrollment in the course.

**Auditing and Overload Courses**

Any student wishing to audit a course can do so only by stating this intention in writing to the Dean’s office before the first day of classes. No change in status (from audit to graded or graded to audit) can be permitted after classes have begun. Students should also be forewarned that an auditor will have no official transcript of the program, i.e., there will be nothing official to indicate that the auditing student ever took a course. Auditors must still pay 1/2 of the tuition fees, and any associated fees. Auditors are expected to be fully participating members of their classes, completing all the assignments and/or exams required of every other student.

Audits are subject to availability of space. When not enrolled in the MSS program (and not on leave or withdrawn), individuals who wish to audit a course must first contact the Dean for approval.

An overload is defined as any course taken in addition to the required number of courses. Overloads are charged at the normal tuition rate. Students will be permitted to enroll in overload courses only after all students taking the course for required credit have been accommodated. Social Work grant funds may not be used for overload or audited courses.

**Independent Study and Master’s Papers in the MSS Program**

For Credit Independent Study and Master’s Papers are academic credit options that may only be used to fulfill elective requirements once the student has completed all foundation year course work. Both an Independent Study and a Master’s Paper require supervision by a tenured or tenure track member of the GSSWSR Faculty who agrees to supervise the work.

A student may propose either of these study options in any area of social work that is not available to the student as a regular course within the timeframe of the student’s expected matriculation at Bryn Mawr College. One course credit will be given after satisfactory completion of either the Independent Study or the Master’s Paper. An Independent Study is one semester in length. It typically is not offered during the summer sessions. A Master’s Paper spans the fall and spring semesters (the student registers for the Master’s Paper for both semesters). There is no credit given or charge incurred for the fall semester. The Master’s Paper is completed in the spring semester, charges are incurred and a grade given at that time. A Master’s Paper will typically require the permission of two faculty members who would serve as readers, or as the result of a research project in a particular interest area, one faculty member would serve as the instructor and the second faculty member would serve as a reader.

MSS students are required to take three electives, only one of which may include an independent study or a Master’s Paper. A student (receiving the approval as noted) may pursue an Independent Study over and above the required number of electives; however, this would be an “overload” and treated as such (e.g., no GSSWSR grant funds would be awarded).
Content of Proposal:

Students intending to apply for an Independent Study and/or a Master’s Paper should prepare a study proposal in consultation with the supervising faculty member(s) prior to the semester when such a study is to be initiated. The proposal should include the scope of the study, the goals to be accomplished, a preliminary reference list identifying basic texts and reading materials and a description of the process that will be used to identify additional readings/texts. In addition, the proposal must include a plan for a mid-term assessment as well as an end of semester assessment that includes a description of what the student will submit as a final project/paper. The proposal should also address why an independent study, as opposed to an existing course at the GSSWSR, is required for the student to engage this content.

Timing:

For spring semester independent studies, proposals must be reviewed at the December curriculum committee meeting. The Dean's office should receive the proposal at least one week prior to the December curriculum committee meeting. For fall semester independent studies, proposals must be reviewed at the May curriculum committee meeting. The Dean’s office should receive the proposal at least one week prior to the May curriculum committee meeting.

Evaluating Student Performance

Preparation for professional social work practice requires the student to read widely, think critically, analytically, and creatively, engage in reasoned debate, and produce independent and collaborative work. To meet these requirements, the student must be present for class and ready to participate fully in the entire range of educational opportunities. Students are expected to complete all assigned readings in advance of class meetings, to attend all class sessions and submit written assignments on time. The instructor should be notified well in advance if the student expects to miss a class meeting or an assignment due date. Continued tardiness and two or more absences will result in a referral for the student to appear before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. More than three absences may result in a grade of Unsatisfactory. Each instructor will determine the method by which attendance will be recorded, satisfactory participation, and completion of assignments for their course. These expectations are noted on the syllabus of each course.

While the School does not have a formal honor code system, students, faculty, and staff are expected to comply with the NASW Code of Ethics and GSSWSR Standards of Professional Behavior. In-class or online exams are given with the expectation that the work submitted will be the student’s own. If instructions for assignments and/or tests are unclear, instructors should be asked for clarification.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is an unethical and unacceptable act. Plagiarism occurs when someone deliberately or accidentally uses the words, ideas, or other original thoughts of someone without proper acknowledgement. Plagiarism includes copying from another source without citation, closely paraphrasing another source without citation, building closely on someone else’s ideas without citation, paying for someone to write a paper, and buying, stealing, copying, or borrowing a paper and submitting it as one’s own work. It is a student’s responsibility to become familiar with the definition of plagiarism and the proper methods of documentation and the citation of sources. Students are encouraged to consult with any of the following whenever there is a question about possible plagiarism in one of their assignments: the most current Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, the class instructor, and the GSSWSR Writing Coach. The consequences of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the student being required to meet with the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and possible dismissal from the School. If an instructor suspects that a student has plagiarized material, the instructor will first discuss the issue with the student and will then refer the matter to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students, or to the Doctoral Faculty Committee for further evaluation and recommendation.

Grading and Mutual Accountability

Please see the GSSWSR policy on Satisfactory Academic Progress which follows later in this catalog; any revisions will be in the most current document that is posted on the School’s web page: www.brynmawr.edu/socialwork/current-students/academic-information. It is the instructor’s responsibility to provide the Master’s student with an evaluative grade for a course or seminar. These grades are entered into Bionic at the end of each semester. The instructor will provide a narrative “End of Semester Evaluation of Student Performance” form for any student who receives a grade of S- or U. A qualitative analysis of achievement of learning
objectives, oral and written presentations, examinations and other educational outcome measures is also required. In addition, the instructor may choose to provide a written analysis of the student’s performance to students who receive a grade of S as a private communication between the instructor and the student.

The PhD student receives an evaluative grade of Satisfactory, Marginal Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory on the grade sheet form; however, only a Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory will appear on the transcript. The policy of the School is to terminate any PhD student who receives either:

- Two “Unsatisfactory assessments”;
- Three “Marginal Satisfactory assessments”; or
- One “Unsatisfactory” and two “Marginal Satisfactory” assessments

Decisions to terminate students will be made at the end of each semester when the Doctoral Committee meets to consider the performance of every registered student. If a decision is made to terminate a student, the student receives official notification from the Dean of the School.

Academic Advisor Role

Upon enrollment, all students are assigned to a faculty member or senior administrator for academic advisement. Students meet their advisors during orientation and are expected to consult with them regarding school policies, course planning, career goals and about difficulties that may be impacting their course work at GSSWSR. It is especially important that students consult their Academic Advisor prior to registration.

Academic Advisors are notified whenever there are concerns about the academic or field performance of a student. If a student is referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students, the Academic Advisor helps prepare the student for this meeting and is invited to accompany the student in a supportive role. Academic Advisor assignments may be changed under certain circumstances. Please contact the Assistant Dean for Administration for more information.

Student’s Evaluation of Courses and Instructors

It is the student’s responsibility to (a) participate in either: an oral or written mid-term analysis and evaluation of the course or seminar, and (b) to prepare anonymously an end-of-semester evaluation of faculty performance and of the course. The student’s evaluation of the course and the instructor is not made available to the latter until all grades are entered in Bionic and any required narrative gradesheets have been turned in to the Dean’s Office. The student evaluations of faculty performance are important to course development as well as to faculty reappointment, tenure, and promotion.

Recognizing the importance of Field Education as the “signature pedagogy” of professional Social Work schools, Master’s students in field placements will complete an evaluation of their field experience, including Field Agency, Field Instructor, Field Liaison, and the Field Office at the end of the academic year. Feedback is used in the development of enhanced Field Office processes and procedures, preparation of future students for field practicum experiences, and field instructor training to support field settings as quality sites for student learning. (Refer to the Field Education Manual for further details.)

Grading

Defining the Meaning of Grades

The specific standards of each course are based on the expectations of the course instructor (or instructors in the case of multiple sections of the same course). Faculty members and Field Liaisons give considerable thought to their standards and they make every effort to apply them consistently and fairly. These standards are reported on each course syllabus and the Field Education Manual to reflect both the grading philosophy behind these standards as well as broader beliefs about the academic performance expected of a social work graduate student. All grades are based on a common expectation of satisfactory graduate-level performance (equivalent to a letter or numeric grade of “B” or “3.0” or better) and are further specified by the following performance categories:

S (Satisfactory Performance - equivalent to a B [3.0] or better: Passing)

A student has shown an adequate or superior mastery of knowledge and/or skills to be able to transpose what has been learned to other contexts and has satisfactorily fulfilled course requirements as noted in the course syllabus. For Field Education, expectations consist of the CSWE competencies and related practice behaviors reflected on the “Learning Agreement & the Student Evaluation” form.
S- (Marginal Satisfactory Performance - equivalent to a B- [2.7]: Passing)

A student has shown a level of performance in a course other than Field Education that is close to but below the standard of satisfactory. This grade may also be used to indicate only a partial fulfillment of course requirements as noted in the course syllabus. Students who receive an S- grade are expected to schedule a meeting, as soon as possible, with their Faculty Academic Advisor.

U (Unsatisfactory Performance - below the equivalent of B- [2.7]: Not Passing/No Academic Credit)

A student has not demonstrated sufficient understanding of the course material to be able to use it conceptually and/or in practice and/or has not fulfilled significant course requirements as noted in the course syllabus or the Field Manual. In Field Education this would be further indicated by a high level of “needs improvement” ratings on the mid-year or final evaluation.

Consequences of cumulative deficiencies in academic performance

A grade of “S-“:

- A student who receives a grade of “S-“ in any course will be required to meet with the Academic Advisor to consider what actions should be taken to mitigate future academic difficulty. The student and the Advisor will jointly prepare a brief statement describing these proposed actions. This statement will be submitted by the advisor to the Dean’s Office and will be placed in the student’s permanent file for future reference.
- A second “S-“ grade requires a timely review of the student’s status by the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and a third “S-“ grade may be considered sufficient grounds for the Committee to recommend that a student be removed from the program.

A grade of “U“:

- A “U” is a failing grade and the student does not receive credit for the course. A student will not receive GSSWSR scholarship funds for any course that is repeated as a result of having received a “U” grade.
- A “U” grade requires a timely review of the student’s status by the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. A required course can only be retaken once. A student who fails a required course a second time will be removed from the program. A third grade of “U” in any combination of required and elective courses will result in removal from the program. The decision to remove a student from the program based on grade deficiencies will be made by the Dean after consultation with the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students.

Policies and procedures associated with grading standards

Any grade of “S-“ “I” or “U” requires a grade sheet completed by the course instructor that includes a brief narrative explaining the reason for the grade and noting any recommended action(s) that the instructor believes the student might undertake to support future academic progress. The instructor will provide a copy of the grade sheet to the student and to the Dean’s Office, and the Field Liaison will provide a copy of the grade sheet to the student and Field Education Office, by a deadline established by the Dean’s Office for the specific grading period. The Dean’s Office will place the instructor’s grade sheet in the student’s permanent file.

In Field Education, the mid-year and end of year evaluations for all students require the Field Instructor to include written comments when a “needs improvement” rating is given for a particular practice behavior. Final evaluations are submitted through “Sonia” (Field Education database) by the Field Instructor for Field Liaison review and issuance of a final grade for the Field Education course. All students receive grade sheets for Field Education from their designated Field Liaison. Both the field evaluation and field grade sheet become a part of the student’s permanent file.

In the case of a student receiving either a “S-“ or “U“ grade, the Dean’s Office will notify the student’s Faculty Advisor of the grade and inform the student that a meeting with their Advisor (or a designated Advisor during the Summer Sessions) is required within a timeframe specified for that academic period.

At GSSWSR grading is the responsibility of individual faculty. If a student believes that their academic performance does not warrant an S-, U or INC grade, they should first discuss the matter with their instructor. If they still believe that the grade they received is unjust, they should contact the Dean to request an appointment to discuss the matter. If the issue still remains unresolved, the student may consult the College Provost or her designee. The decision of the College Provost or her designee shall be binding.
Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes at the graduate level as a significant amount of material is missed when they are unable to attend class. However, when sickness or other circumstances arise that prevent a student from attending class, the instructor must be notified as soon as possible. If a student has two or more absences, the instructor will report this to the student’s Faculty Academic Advisor and to the Administrator of Student Services. Three absences automatically result in the student appearing before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. The student’s grade in the class may result in a U. For Summer Sessions and 7-week classes, the instructor will report two absences to the Faculty Academic Advisor and the Administrator of Student Services and the student will be referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. Further, in Field Education, lack of a field placement assignment for more than six weeks may be grounds for referral to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and may result in the recommendation of withdrawal from the Field Education Course.

The method by which each instructor has chosen to record attendance will be reviewed during the first class. This method (roll call, sign-up sheet, etc.) is the official attendance record for that course.

The Community Day of Learning (CDL) is held during the spring semester. All students are expected to attend. Classes at the GSSWSR are cancelled until 4 pm, in order to facilitate participation.

Extensions, Incompletes, and Withdrawal

Extensions

Students in need of extensions for written work, or alternative exam dates, must request these extensions ahead of the due date for the work from their professors. Extensions may be granted but this is at the full discretion of the instructor. Extensions must be completed and graded by the time grades are due.

Incomplete Grades: MSS Students

A grade of “I” (temporary incomplete) may be given by the instructor only when extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances prevent a student from being able to complete their work by the deadline that grades are due to the Registrar’s Office at the end of a semester. Incompletes may not be granted for work that is not completed for other reasons. Incompletes may only be given to students who are in good academic standing in the course in which work is outstanding.

An incomplete grade may be converted to an S, S-, or a U, following this procedure:

- Students requesting an incomplete because of extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances must meet with their professor to create a reasonable plan and timeline for completion of the work. The plan and timeline should be documented on the MSS/PhD grade sheet.
- The incomplete plan and timeline must be approved by the Dean.

If the course in which the incomplete was received is a pre-requisite for a subsequent course, the student may not progress to the next course until a final grade of S, or S- is issued to the Registrar.

No degree credit will be issued for incomplete grades.

Permanent Incomplete

This grade (INC) should only be given if extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances prevent the student from being able to complete their work. If a student had been given a temporary incomplete, a permanent incomplete is given when the temporary incomplete expires and the student’s remaining work has not been submitted. Two permanent incompletes will result in a student coming before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students.

PhD Students

For Doctoral Students, the grade of Incomplete is reserved for use only in respect to illness or a grave emergency situation. On the grade sheet, the instructor indicates the date by which the work is to be completed. Incompletes must be completed within 30 days of the end of the semester in which the Incomplete is incurred. Any Incomplete remaining after this date automatically becomes permanent and no degree credit is received. On the rare occasion of an exception to this policy, permission of the PhD Director, in consultation with the Dean, is required.
Withdrawal from a Course

The guidelines for withdrawing from a course are governed by the GSSWSR. A student who withdraws from a course past the official add/drop deadline on the GSSWSR Academic Calendar for any reason will receive a WD (Withdrawal) grade for the course that will appear on the transcript. No degree credit will be received. A student who withdraws from a course after the 60% point in the semester or summer session may receive an Unsatisfactory (U) grade. If an Unsatisfactory grade is given the student will be referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and will need to retake the class (in the case of elective classes, take another elective) without the benefit of being able to use Bryn Mawr grant funding. Academic Advisers should refer students to the Office of Financial Aid to discuss any financial implications for their Academic Plan.

Withdrawal from a Field Placement

A student who has been withdrawn from a field placement for reasons related to documented poor performance will meet with the Director or Assistant Director of Field Education who will determine if the student will be given another placement or be referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students to review the student’s program and performance. If the student is again removed for reasons related to documented poor performance in the second placement, or, in the replacement process, refuses or is refused a field placement, the student will not be placed again until the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students meets and reviews the student’s program and performance. The purpose of this meeting is to make recommendations. These recommendations may include, but are not limited to: rearrangement of student’s program to complete field placement at a later time; having the student seek additional experiences outside of the School to address identified areas of weakness; providing additional field placement opportunity(ies); or removal from the program.

Temporary Leave of Absence for Medical Reasons or Pregnancy/Parenting

Students may elect to take a temporary leave of absence from coursework, and/or fieldwork in the event of a medical need, pregnancy or parenting. The student is entitled to a temporary leave plan guided by the following process and principles;

Temporary leave planning is to be initiated by the student by consulting first with their academic advisor in a timely and professional manner. In addition, if in field placement, the student should inform the field education office and the field liaison that a leave will be needed. Students should contact their advisor, and field office as early as possible to plan for a leave.

A. The academic advisor, after consulting with the student, will engage the field education office, inclusive of the field liaison for the student if they are in field placement, as well as the relevant faculty to begin the leave planning.

B. The academic advisor, in consultation with the field office, inclusive of the field liaison, and relevant faculty will construct a temporary leave plan for field as well as coursework that ensures the student is able to make up missed work in a timely way. This planning will be guided by the following core parameters;

1. The temporary leave plan will make every effort to maximize concurrency of practice classes with field work.
2. The temporary leave plan will encompass a maximum of 6 weeks of absence for fieldwork, and 4 weeks for coursework.
3. The temporary leave plan will honor the needs and requirements of the field agency and will be acceptable to the field agency. The plan will make every effort to maintain the student’s current field placement.
   a. In the instance in which an agency, because of staffing needs, modality or overall mission, is unable to allow for a temporary leave, planning for a new field placement will begin as soon as possible.
4. For students enrolled in Field Education I, II, III, or IV, the temporary leave plan will allow these students to accumulate the required field hours ahead of the planned absence. However, the plan will not allow students enrolled in Field Education I to accumulate time in field prior to beginning the Foundation Practice I course. For students enrolled in Field Education II, or IV, these students may extend field work past the end of the semester in which Foundation Practice II or Advanced Practice IV are taught (keeping in mind our regular policies regarding incomplete or unfinished
work in the classroom or field). For students enrolled in Advanced Practice I, the plan will allow students to accumulate a maximum of 6 weeks in the field at any time preceding the beginning of the Advanced Practice I course, providing that all work for the Field Education I and II courses has been satisfactorily completed.

C. In the event that a plan for a temporary leave of absence needs modification after it is initiated, the academic advisor, field education office, field liaison and relevant faculty will formulate a revised temporary leave plan, however, this leave plan must not violate any of the guiding principles above. Students in need of a leave of greater duration than 6 weeks for field work, and 4 weeks from coursework should refer to the school’s policy and procedures for medical leaves of absence. Students are not permitted to be absent for more than 6 weeks from field and 4 weeks from coursework as this compromises the educational value of the course. In such cases students will need to adjust their plan of study and may be required to withdraw from the field education course and corresponding practice class.

D. Temporary leave plans require the approval of the Dean of the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research.

Leaves and Withdrawal

A student whose academic work is in good standing may apply in writing to the Dean for a leave of absence after consulting with their Academic Advisor. The Dean may ask to speak directly with the student. A leave is typically requested for no more than one academic year. If the student wishes to return to the School at the end of the leave, a letter should be written to the Dean requesting reinstatement. Availability of space in the program and length of time the student has been away from the School will be factors affecting reinstatement. A student extending a leave beyond the approved period will need to apply for readmission to the School.

The student may, on the recommendation of a physician, request a medical leave of absence for reasons of health which include maternity/parental leave or serious mental health concerns. Readmission may be granted by the Dean, upon recommendation of the treating physician and based upon evidence of the student’s capacity to meet the demands of the program.

A student who has withdrawn from the School is not automatically readmitted. After a year’s absence, readmission may be requested after consultation with the Dean. Students who withdraw or take a leave of absence before the end of the enrollment period must contact the Office of Financial Aid at (610) 526-5245 for an exit interview before departure from the program to ensure that the financial account is settled. Students must also meet with the Dean or the Administrator of Student Services to discuss their experiences at the School.

Participation in School Sponsored Educational Activities While on Leave

A student who is on medical leave is temporarily inactive in terms of their enrollment status. Students on leave may attend school events which are open to the public; however, they may not attend events or participate

in activities designated for active students or hold officer positions in student organizations. This would include activities such as policy trips, being eligible to receive fellowship funds, etc. Students may resume participation in all GSSWSR sponsored activities upon their approved return to the School.

Exclusion

Bryn Mawr College reserves the right to exclude at any time any student whose academic standing is unsatisfactory or whose conduct violates the GSSWSR Community Standards of Professional Behavior.

In such cases fees will not be remitted or refunded in whole or in part; fellowships and scholarships will be canceled. Findings regarding academic standing and conduct are made by the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students, or the Doctoral Faculty, or the Dean.

Academic Probation

Students who are struggling to successfully complete their coursework may be in danger of being declared to be on academic probation. If a student is experiencing difficulties they should first seek guidance from their instructor who may give additional instructional support, or refer the student to the writing center or to a TA for additional help. The instructor may also inform the student’s Academic Advisor of the student’s difficulties who may then request a meeting with the student. If the student is in danger of failing a class, or is given a grade of Unsatisfactory, the Academic Advisor is notified and the student is referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. A student is considered
to be on Academic Probation if they have failed to meet the academic standards of the School by receiving a grade of Unsatisfactory (U) in a class or in field education. Students on academic probation are not allowed to hold officer positions in student organizations, nor are they eligible for fellowship funding until their status has been changed to being in good standing. Students placed on academic probation will also receive a financial aid warning letter from the Office of Financial Aid. In order to regain good standing, the student must appear before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and follow the recommendations outlined in the Academic Plan which is sent to them after they have met with the Committee.

Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students

Students whose performance in coursework and/or fieldwork places them in academic jeopardy or whose behavior raises questions about their appropriateness for the Social Work profession may be asked to appear before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students (the Committee). The purpose of the Committee is to assist students in determining obstacles which may have impacted their academic performance and to develop an Academic Plan in order for them to move forward in the School. It is generally composed of two elected faculty members and is convened by the Dean. Others such as the Director of Field Education and the Administrator of Student Services may be invited to meetings as needed. The student’s Academic Advisor is also invited and students may invite another person to serve as support. In the summer sessions a smaller committee with fewer faculty and students may be convened.

Reasons for referring a student to the Committee include:

- Charge of plagiarism
- Failure in one course
- Marginal performance in more than one course. A second S- grade requires a timely review of the student’s status by the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and a third S- grade may be considered sufficient grounds for the Committee to recommend that a student be removed from the program.
- Marginal performance in field education
- Excessive tardiness or violation of the School’s attendance policy as outlined in the course syllabus.
- Failure to adhere to Standards of Professional Behavior as outlined in the document signed by all students at the beginning of their first academic year at GSSWSR.

Referral to the Committee:

After the instructor has taken all appropriate steps to assist the student to improve performance to an acceptable level and has reached the conclusion that the student is in jeopardy, the student’s Academic Advisor is informed and the Dean’s office is notified that the student is not meeting the requirements of the course. The Academic Advisor gathers information about the student’s performance in other classes and the field and provides summaries to the Administrator of Student Services. The Administrator of Student Services notifies the Dean; who will convene a meeting of the Committee. The student is notified in writing (via email) of the meeting day, time and location. The Academic Advisor is copied on the letter and invited to attend. If the issue is related to field education, the Director of Field Education, Field Liaison and/or Field Instructor may be asked to attend this meeting as well.

The Committee, after discussing the issues with the student and the Academic Advisor, will make recommendations to the student as to how best to proceed in the master’s program. These recommendations range from repeating a failed class, to reducing course load, or taking a leave of absence. In some cases, the Committee may determine that the student needs to withdraw from the School. It is not the purview of the Committee to change the grade issued by a faculty member to a student.

Appeals

The decision or recommendations of the Committee may be appealed. The student must submit a request to the College Provost, who will review the student’s academic performance as well as the decision of the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. The decision of the Provost or her designee shall be final. All Bryn Mawr College GSSWSR students have the right to present a formal grievance to the College Provost, after having met with the Committee.
Grounds for Dismissal

The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research maintains high standards and expectations of its students, faculty, and staff. As a professional school we believe it is imperative that all honor professional standards of behavior, and adhere to social work ethics and the high academic standards outlined herein. However infrequently, a student may be dismissed from the School. This would usually be a recommendation by the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students, but may also be a decision made by the Dean if the circumstances warrant prompt action. Grounds for dismissal may include:

- Failure to adhere to Standards of Professional Behavior
- Violation of NASW Code of Ethics
- Violation of the Bryn Mawr College Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Violation of HIPPA laws in field or school
- Three or more appearances before the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students
- Receiving a grade of Unsatisfactory in two required courses
- Receiving a grade of S- in three courses
- A documented charge of plagiarism substantiated by the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students.
- Engaging in illegal activities in school or in placement resulting in felony charges

Appeals and Grievance Procedures

All students who believe that they have been treated unfairly have the right to be heard. The Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research has in place both policies and procedures for students to follow. The appeal procedures for the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students, as well as the process to appeal a grade, are detailed earlier in the catalog. The appeal process for the doctoral program is in the PhD Operating Procedures Manual. With the exception of appealing decisions of the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and decisions of the Doctoral Faculty, the following procedure is to be used by all students:

In all instances where a student feels treated unfairly, the student should first discuss the issue directly with the individual involved, whether that individual is a student, member of the Faculty or staff, Field Education Liaison, or Field Instructor.

If the issue is not resolved at those levels, the student should consult:

- the Faculty Academic Advisor when the matter involves a fellow student, member of the faculty, or staff member;
- the Field Education Liaison when the matter involves a Field Instructor;
- the Director or Assistant Director of Field Education when the matter involves a Field Education Liaison.

If the issue is not resolved at that level, the student should consult the Dean, Assistant Dean for Administration, or the Administrator of Student Services.

If the issue still remains unresolved, the student may consult the College Provost or her designee. The decision of the College Provost or her designee shall be binding.
SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

Purpose

This policy defines satisfactory academic progress for all Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research (GSSWSR) matriculating students.

Accountability

The Dean of the GSSWSR is responsible for implementing this policy.

Policy

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is defined here as the successful completion of degree requirements, according to a) established completion rates, b) standards for academic performance, and c) time limits.

Sound academic principles require that students maintain standards of satisfactory academic progress. In addition, federal regulations require the GSSWSR to establish SAP standards for students receiving federal funds. The following standards apply to all matriculating students, regardless of whether they are financial aid recipients. Students who fail to maintain SAP must be informed of their failure to meet SAP standards and notified of their academic status by the Dean/designated representative. Students may be placed on financial aid warning or probation, suspended, or dismissed, in accordance with GSSWSR policies. SAP will be reviewed at the end of each grading period.

Completion Rate

At the end of each grading period the Administrator of Student Services will evaluate all students’ academic progress by comparing the number of attempted courses with the courses successfully completed to date. At the end of each grading period, a student must have successfully completed a minimum of 67% of all of the courses they have attempted in that grading period; if not, they are considered to be on Academic Probation and are referred to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students and an Academic Plan is developed for the student to follow. Repeated courses are treated as credits attempted.

The program completion rate standards listed below differ between the Master of Social Service (MSS), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs, due to the different requirements for each of those programs.

MSS Program

A student in the MSS program must successfully complete a minimum of three (3) courses at the end of each academic year; however, a student may need to complete more than the minimum number in some years to meet other benchmarks. In addition, students must take certain courses in sequence. By the end of the spring semester of the student’s second academic year in the program, students must have completed all 10 foundation courses (including 2 semesters of field placement), inclusive of transfer credits or successful waiver exams. No more than two foundation courses may be taken in the summer between the first and second year. MSS students who are not Advanced Standing must complete all degree requirements (18 units) within a maximum of 4 years.

Advanced Standing students may receive up to 8 transfer credits contingent upon completion of appropriate course work with a grade of B or higher, and upon review of syllabi by faculty teaching in specific curricular areas. Advanced Standing students must begin the MSS program in the summer of their first academic year, and complete 2 courses during that first summer. They must enroll in concentration level practice courses and field placements in their first year. They must complete the program degree requirements no later than September of the following academic year.

PhD program

A student in the PhD program must successfully complete a minimum of three (3) courses at the end of each academic year in order to be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress. PhD students must complete a total of 12 courses within the first 4 years in the program. Preliminary exams must be passed within 18 months after the completion of coursework. The dissertation proposal must be accepted within one year after completion of preliminary exams. The dissertation must be successfully defended within 4 years after the proposal is accepted. All degree requirements must be completed within 8 years. Thus, students can take the maximum amount of time for some requirements, but cannot take the maximum time for all requirements. If a student fails to finish any given part of the program in the maximum amount of time allowed,
that student will be removed from the PhD program.

**MSS and PhD programs**

Courses will be considered as attempted or completed as follows:

- **Attempted and completed:** Courses with a grade of S (Satisfactory) equivalent to a B or better; courses with a grade of S- (Marginal Satisfactory) equivalent to a B-.
- **Attempted but not completed:** Courses with a grade of U (Unsatisfactory), INC (Permanent Incomplete), WD (Withdrawal). Temporary incomplete grades (I) change to S, S-, U, or INC.
- **Not attempted and not completed:** Courses with a grade of AUD (audit) and non-credit/no fee courses

Students who attempt but do not complete courses/degree requirements at the appropriate rate (as described above) will be placed on Warning status for the first failed term. A student in Warning status may continue to receive institutional and federal assistance for one payment period. A student who fails to meet the satisfactory academic progress standards after the Warning period must submit an appeal to continue to receive federal aid. If an appeal is submitted and approved, a student who has failed to meet satisfactory academic standards may enroll for another term on Probationary status (see below). Appeals must be made in writing to the Dean.

**Academic Performance**

The Dean of GSSWSR (or designee) determines satisfactory academic progress for students enrolled in the GSSWSR and notifies them accordingly. Upon notification by the Dean of GSSWSR (or designee), the Office of Financial Aid will also notify students who failed to meet the academic progress standards of GSSWSR of their financial aid eligibility status.

- At the end of each grading period the Dean/designated representative will determine which students have not achieved a passing grade in each course attempted. “S” (Satisfactory), is the passing grade; in the MSS program “S-” (Marginal Satisfactory) is also a passing grade; however any student who receives a second “S-” must meet with the Committee on the Evaluation of Educational Performance of Masters Students (herein after referred to as the Committee).
- MSS students who attempt but do not complete a required course shall meet with the Committee. Except in extenuating circumstances such as family or medical emergencies, a student who attempts but does not complete a course will lose SAP status and be placed in Warning status (as described above) or on Probationary status (described above). The Dean determines what constitutes extenuating circumstances.
- The student must successfully repeat a required course in order to re-establish SAP status. The maximum number of times that a student may repeat a course is two. Students do not receive GSSWSR scholarship funds for repeated courses, for audited courses, or for elective courses taken in excess of the number required for the degree; however, they may still apply for and receive federal funds as long as they are meeting other satisfactory academic progress standards. Only one repetition of a previously failed course will be eligible for federal funds and counted toward enrollment for the term when the course is repeated.

A student who attempts but does not complete two required courses may be dismissed from the MSS program.

A student who receives Unsatisfactory grades in 2 courses or Marginal Satisfactory grades in 3 courses will be dismissed from the PhD program.

**Maximum Time Frame**

Maximum time frame is defined as the maximum number of years after first enrollment that a student may complete GSSWSR courses in the pursuit of a degree. After each grading period the Dean/designated representative will evaluate whether each student can complete the program without exceeding the maximum time frame. A student must complete all requirements for their specific degree program within the maximum time frame specified below, not including time for approved leaves of absence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Program</th>
<th>Standard Length</th>
<th>Maximum Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSS</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSS advanced standing</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>8 years</td>
<td>8 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notification of Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress**
Following the evaluations required by Sections A, B, and C of this policy, the Dean’s office will transmit written notification to all students who have not met the standards for SAP, with copies to Bryn Mawr College Office of Financial Aid. The notification will indicate the nature of the deficiency, any methods that may be available for correcting the deficiency, and any consequences that may have resulted or may result, such as warning, probation, suspension, or dismissal. A student may reestablish SAP by demonstrating achievement of degree requirements, an academic plan defined by the Committee or the Doctoral Faculty, and satisfying the completion rate and minimum GPA required by Sections A and B of this policy within the maximum time frame required in Section C of this policy.

**Appeal of Unsatisfactory Academic Progress Designation**

Students who wish to dispute a determination of unsatisfactory academic progress and financial aid eligibility have the right to appeal such decisions. The student must submit a written request for appeal to the Dean.

The first appeal for Masters Students is to the Committee on the Evaluation of the Educational Performance of Masters Students. The first appeal for doctoral students is to the Doctoral Financial Aid Subcommittee. If a student’s failure to make satisfactory progress is due to extenuating circumstances, the student may request that the Dean approve an exception to the requirements of the SAP policy.

The second appeal is to the College Provost or her designee. The results of the appeal to the Provost or her designee are final.

**Financial Aid Probation:** Students who are not progressing satisfactorily at the end of the Warning period may be placed on financial aid probation. A student on Probation is defined as one who has failed to make Satisfactory Academic Progress for two terms. Students on financial aid probation may receive federal assistance for one payment period if they appeal and the appeal is granted. The Dean of GSSWSR (or designee) determines satisfactory academic progress for students enrolled in the GSSWSR. Upon notification by the Dean/designee, the Office of Financial Aid will notify students who failed to meet the academic progress standards of the GSSWSR that they can continue to receive financial aid for a probationary term, or if their financial aid eligibility has been terminated.

While on financial aid probation the student is eligible for financial aid if an appeal has been made and the appeal has been approved by the Dean. The student must complete the following term successfully as well as successfully complete all requirements established by this policy. This will allow the student to return to good SAP standing. After one year, students who remain out of compliance with the SAP policy lose eligibility for financial aid and can no longer appeal.

A student who has lost eligibility for financial aid cannot regain eligibility by paying for enrolled courses or by sitting out for a term. The student must successfully complete requirements specified by this policy.

**Dismissal or Withdrawal**

Students who are dismissed or withdrawn from the GSSWSR are not making satisfactory academic progress and are not eligible to receive financial aid.

**Documentation**

Documentation of decisions concerning the status of SAP, warning, probation, dismissal, appeal, or re-establishment of SAP shall be transmitted to the affected student and maintained in the student’s academic file in the Dean’s Office of the GSSWSR.

**Dissemination**

This policy will be published in the same manner as other academic policies of the GSSWSR, including online publication and inclusion in all new editions of the GSSWSR catalog and the PhD Program Operating Procedures. All students who enroll in any GSSWSR degree program will be notified of this policy.
Assessment of Student’s Performance in a Master’s Course
(Required for grades of S-, U, temporary or permanent Incomplete)

Student’s Name: 

Instructor: 

Student’s ID: Course and Section: 

Signature: Date: 

Title: 

Semester, Year: Return to Dean’s Office by: 

☐ Marginal Satisfactory (S-)
☐ Unsatisfactory (U)
☐ Incomplete – Permanent (INC)
☐ Temporary Incomplete (I) to be completed by:

Comments: (Please describe the reasons for the grade and any suggestions for improvement)

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Use reverse side, or attach additional pages as necessary.
FEES, BILLING, PAYMENTS, AND FINANCIAL AID

Tuition and Fees

Fees for 2018-19:

- Application Fee $50
- Doctoral course $5,765 per course
- Master's course $4,530 per course
- Field Education fee $110 ($55 per semester) for students in field placement
- Materials/Student Activities Fee $300 ($150 per semester)
- Summer Materials/Activities Fee $25
- Commencement fee $60 ($30 per semester) one time for graduating students only PhD
- Continuing Enrollment Fee $590 (per semester) for PhD students not enrolled in courses

Field Education is a course that earns one unit and is billed the same tuition as other MSS 1 unit courses.

Payment of Fees

It is the policy of the College that tuition is due before the first day of each semester. No credit will be given for any semester’s work if any balance due remains outstanding, nor will the student be allowed to register for any subsequent semester.

Bryn Mawr’s official method for sending student account billing statements is on-line by electronic billing, eBill. Our third-party on-line processor is Nelnet Business Solutions (NBS) for eBill, one-time ePayments for student accounts (QuikPAY), and eCashier for the Automatic Monthly Payment Plan accessed through bionic.brynmawr.edu. See https://www.brynmawr.edu/studentaccounts/making-payments for instructions on how to pay your bill online.

Refund Policy for a Dropped Course

A student who drops a course before the end of the Add/Drop period will be credited 100% of the cost of the course on their student account. A student who drops a course after the end of the Add/ Drop period is responsible for the total cost of the course. If a course needs to be retaken (i.e. Withdraw, Permanent Incomplete, or grade of U), the cost will not be covered by Social Work grant money. Any and all exceptions must first receive the permission of the Dean.

Refund Policies for Withdrawing from the School

A student who has submitted a written withdrawal notice to the Dean of the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research will receive a pro-rated refund based on the time period they were enrolled. A student receives a 100% refund if the withdrawal takes place before the first day of class.

Federal financial aid refund and repayment policies will be applied if a student receives federal financial aid funds and completely withdraws. These policies may require that a portion of the student’s federal funds be returned to the federal Title IV programs.

Bryn Mawr College Financial Aid

Bryn Mawr College believes that the student has the primary responsibility for financing the costs of education. Financial aid is intended to supplement the resources of the student to meet the expenses of a Bryn Mawr education and is administered on the basis of demonstrated eligibility. To meet your eligibility for assistance, the Office of Financial Aid uses funds from federal, institutional, and alternative sources. As stewards of these funds, the College must comply with the regulations specified by these funding sources to ensure its continued ability to participate in these programs. Financial Aid Award Notifications detail the amounts and types of aid offered to you.

Your enrollment is verified after the second week of classes. Enrollment that differs from the enrollment listed on the original award notification may require that financial aid awards be adjusted.

Detailed information may be found at https://www.brynmawr.edu/financial-aid/graduate-school-social-work-social-resources.

The School’s policy on Satisfactory Academic Progress is stated in this catalog and also online at: https://www.brynmawr.edu/sites/default/files/2018-financial-aid-hb-grad-v2.pdf.
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOWK B501 Foundation Practice I

As the first course in our foundation practice sequence, Foundation Practice I covers the core knowledge, values and skills applicable to practice with individuals, families, small groups, organizations, and communities and is taken by all students in the MSS program. In conjunction with other foundation courses, this course examines the field of social work and forms the base from which students later develop advanced knowledge and skills in our various concentrations and specializations. We teach Foundation Practice from a generalist perspective and as such, focus on elements of the social work knowledge base that are important and relevant to all fields of social work practice. This course explores the history and purpose of the social work profession and introduces students to the unique role of social work, as a distinct field, amongst the helping professions. The mission of social work is conceptualized broadly as reflecting the person-in-environment and strengths perspectives with particular emphasis on working with diverse populations and populations at risk.

The course also reflects the school’s mission, goals and objectives of promoting a global perspective, social justice and human wellbeing. Over the course of the semester, Foundation Practice students learn about the centrality of social work values and ethics, the critical role of helping relationships across fields of social work practice, the challenges of forming assessments of diverse populations across and within nation borders, building skills of advocacy and cultural competence, the knowledge and skills for developing and analyzing policies and services and the importance of utilizing research-based knowledge and evidence of best practices in evaluating practice effectiveness. Additionally, all students acquire knowledge and skills to formulate community, organizational and biopsychosocial assessments. Critical thinking skills are emphasized as students are taught to integrate policy, theory and research in practice.

SOWK B502 Foundation Practice II

The Foundation Practice sequence of classes, taken concurrently with the first year of field education, introduces the basic components of social work practice applicable to work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Through an ecological and strengths perspective, emphasis is placed on the helping relationship, assessment, advocacy, intervention planning, and evaluation, especially as they impact the multiple systems and diverse populations with whom social workers work.

SOWK B503 Research Informed Practice I

This course prepares students to use and contribute to the knowledge base of social work by: (1)

gathering and incorporating research knowledge into social work practice, (2) actively participating in research, and (3) interpreting and disseminating the knowledge gained from research activity. The course enables the student to act independently and with some technical competence in the design, conduct, and evaluation of research. The major research strategies such as the use of existing data, participant observation, experimental design including single-subject designs, and survey techniques are studied.

SOWK B504 Research Informed Practice II

Following the prerequisite course in Research Informed Practice I (B503), this course enables students to analyze, interpret, and present data. Emphasis is placed on the uses and misuses of data in social work. The course is designed to enhance students’ ability to (1) read, understand, and critique research findings and (2) apply basic principles of data analysis to the development of knowledge about social work clients and services in agency and community settings. Univariate and bivariate statistics are taught and structured assignments develop elementary computer skills and familiarity with SPSS. Each student prepares a paper in the style and format of a journal article, based on his/her own analysis of data.

SOWK B505 Theoretical Perspectives in SW I

The Theoretical perspectives in Social Work sequence of courses is grounded in conceptual frameworks in an integrated manner. The courses in the sequence are taught concurrently; one focusing on social theory, the other on behavioral theory. The social (or mezzo-macro) theory course considers theories of culture, regimes, communities, social groups and organizations. The behavioral (or micro) theory course considers theories of human behavior, human development, interpersonal relationships, and families. The semester ends with a discussion of the uses of diverse theoretical lenses to help students develop more integrated, biopsychosocial perspectives on human experience.

SOWK B506 Assessment/Psychopathology

This course will provide an overview of principles used in the assessment of psychopathology across the lifespan. Emphasis will be placed on assessment issues, theoretical formulations, etiology, and research findings related to each diagnosis, and the clinical manifestations of these conditions will be illustrated through the use of case examples and video presentations. The uses, strengths, and limitations of our present systems of diagnostic classification will be considered. Students will learn to use the DSM-5 as a diagnostic tool and to critically evaluate it as an extension of the medical model of assessing human distress; in addition, students will be introduced to the Person-in-Environment System.
(PIE) used to assess the strengths and social functioning problems experienced by clients across a range of practice settings. Psychological factors related to physical conditions will be considered, and cultural influences on the expression and diagnosis of mental disorders will be explored. The impact on the assessment process of oppression, discrimination, and trauma, especially as they intersect with race, sex, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, will also be examined. A strengths perspective that leads to a competence model of assessment and intervention that is compatible with social work principles and values will be emphasized. This course supports the assessment skills that are emphasized in Foundation Practice I and II and further developed in Clinical Social Work I and II, and essential to the field instruction experience. Readings and discussions build on the social and behavioral theories introduced in Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work I and II.

**SOWK B507 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work II**

The Theoretical perspectives in Social Work sequence of courses is grounded in conceptual frameworks in an integrated manner. The courses in the sequence are taught concurrently; one focusing on social theory, the other on behavioral theory. The social (or mezzo-macro) theory course considers theories of culture, regimes, communities, social groups and organizations. The behavioral (or micro) theory course considers theories of human behavior, human development, interpersonal relationships, and families. The semester ends with a discussion of the uses of diverse theoretical lenses to help students develop more integrated, biopsychosocial perspectives on human experience.

**SOWK B508 Community Strategies and Assessment: Advocacy and Action**

This course is designed for students intending to concentrate in Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy. Students develop capacities to apply basic skills and strategies for policy advocacy and community organizing, to understand and distinguish between various community assessment methods, program planning and to employ a case study methodology to assess differential approaches to practice with individuals, organizations, and communities, especially as they are related to excluded and oppressed populations. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on the use of multicultural perspectives, advocacy with marginalized and at-risk populations, and practice in a diverse and global landscape.

**SOWK B517 Social Policy Foundations/Analysis**

This course deepens students' understanding of current controversies in U.S. social welfare policy and their relevance for professional social work. The course provides historical background on the evolution of U.S. social welfare policy with comparison to other nations’ social welfare approaches; critically examines the concepts of social and economic justice and the rise and development of professional social work in the U.S.; and gives practice in analyzing the underlying assumptions of social policy, particularly in relation to issues of race, gender, and class conflict. The emphasis throughout is on helping students develop a thoughtful, conceptually sophisticated position on the policy and advocacy aspects of their profession and their practice within it. Individual projects allow students to pursue their own interests in specific policy areas.

**SOWK B521 Field Education I**

Supervised experience in using social work skills is provided in a field setting. The field instructors are agency staff members and are responsible for facilitating the student’s learning. Field Education I and II are taken concurrently with B501 and B502, Foundation Practice I and II. Students spend two full days per week in the field during the regularly scheduled hours of the assigned agency.

**SOWK B522 Field Education II**

Supervised experience in using social work skills is provided in a field setting. The field instructors are agency staff members and are responsible for facilitating the student’s learning. Field Education I and II are taken concurrently with B501 and B502, Foundation Practice I and II. Students spend two full days per week in the field during the regularly scheduled hours of the assigned agency.

**SOWK B531 Community Practice, Policy & Advocacy I**

This is first of the two practice seminars in the Community Practice, Policy and Advocacy concentration (CPPA).

It builds on the student’s knowledge of social work practice with individuals, communities and organizations acquired in the first year practice classes including issues of advocacy for social change. The emphasis in this course is on finding one’s own voice as an advocate, learning the diverse roles and relationships involved in advocacy, working the policy system as an advocate to promote social change, and developing skills to advocate in the policy process effectively. Case studies, examples from the field, and learning from successful advocates will be featured in a class that allows students to develop their own particular relationship with advocacy for social change.

**SOWK B532 Community Practice, Policy & Advocacy II**

This course is the last of the concentration year practice classes in the Community Practice, Policy, and Advocacy (CPPA) concentration. The second semester will focus in depth on skills used by policy advocates in developing social policies and programs. Emphasis is on policy analysis, program development, planning, evaluation, service
coordination and management.

**SOWK B535 Clinical Social Work Practice I**

This is the first of the concentration year practice classes in the Clinical Social Work (CLSW) concentration. The primary goal of this seminar is the refinement of knowledge and skills in differential diagnosis and treatment. Content of the course emphasizes biological, psychological, social, and systemic assessment as the basis for interventions. Students are encouraged to develop a range and variety of roles in the service of specific populations with specific needs. Attention is given to current practice research.

**SOWK B536 Clinical Social Work Practice II**

This is the last of the concentration year practice classes in the Clinical Social Work (CLSW) concentration. This is an integrative seminar which builds on and extends the content of the first semester. Additional content is determined by seminar participants who select problems, populations, methods of intervention, and professional issues for study.

**SOWK B540 Multiculturalism: Power, Privilege and Oppression**

This foundation course focuses on the development of awareness and understanding of structural inequities and systemic oppression in the United States. The impact of culture, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and gender expression on differences in values, beliefs, communication style, family functioning, help-seeking behavior, and problem-solving processes will be examined. Particular attention will be paid to the sociopolitical factors affecting people of color and immigrants and to the negative consequences of biases and stereotypes. Implications of this cultural awareness and knowledge for effective, ethical social work practices will be examined. All students must take this required course.

**SOWK B541 Field Education III**

Second year field education provides an opportunity for the student to focus on the further development of skills. It is taken concurrently with Clinical Social Work (B535), or Community Policy Practice and Advocacy (B531). Concentration year students are assigned to a field setting for three days per week for each of the two semesters. Their work is supervised by an agency staff member who assumes responsibility for facilitating the student’s learning.

**SOWK B542 Field Education IV**

Second year field education provides an opportunity for the student to focus on the further development of skills. It is taken concurrently with Clinical Social Work (B536) or Community Policy Practice and Advocacy (B532). Concentration year students are assigned to a field setting for three days per week for each of the two semesters. Their work is supervised by an agency staff member who assumes responsibility for facilitating the student’s learning.

**SOWK 552 Perspectives on Inequality**

This course will examine the U.S. economic landscape and the effects of government policy choices. It will provide students an ample opportunity to examine and discuss policy issues related to income and other forms of inequality. Some of the issues that will be explored include welfare and welfare reform, issues related to poverty, income inequality, health care policies, unemployment, environmental policies, crime, education, and tax policy. Differences between radical, liberal, conservative, and other approaches will be examined. Current events will be studied extensively by reading both academic articles and articles from current periodicals. The course will emphasize the differential effect of government policy choices on women, ethnic minorities, and other disadvantaged groups.

**SOWK 554 Social Determinants of Health and Health Equity**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with knowledge and an understanding of how structural factors (racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, discrimination, the built environment, poverty, working conditions, and the unequal distribution of power, income, goods, and services) contribute to racial/ethnic and gender disparities in health and well-being.

**SOWK B555 Ethics & Social Work Practice**

Social workers are often called the “conscience” of society. Intimately involved with the details of clients’ lives, social workers practice at the highly charged intersection of ethical, moral and legal issues. Balancing a need to be sensitive to differences in culture and a responsibility to confront oppression requires a finely nuanced ability to identify ethical dilemmas. Once identified these issues are complex to sort through. Whether acting as a therapist, a community organizer, policy or legal advocate, social workers have a responsibility to make ethical decisions that are informed by thoughtful and thorough ethical reasoning process. In establishing themselves as ethical practitioners, social workers have a responsibility to become competent in:

- fostering and maintaining their own ethical practice;
- stimulating and participating in discussions about ethics with clients and colleagues;
- facilitating the often charged ethical discussions that ensue;
- and then helping to bring such discussion to closure and subsequent action

The purpose of this ethics workshop is to provide a provocative look at the study of ethics. The objectives are as follows:
• Delineate different definitions of ethical practice.
• Articulate the numerous challenges to maintaining an ethical practice in the social work field.
• Apply the concept of an “ethical work-up” to analyze ethical dilemmas

SOWK B556 Caring For an Aging America

The course broadly explores the biological, psychological, and social aspects of aging into middle and late adulthood for individual, families, communities, and society at large. This is accomplished through exploration of a.) the psychological and social developmental challenges of adulthood, b.) the core biological changes that accompany this stage of life, c.) research methodology for inquiry into aging, d.) the demands and impact on care givers and families, e.) psychopathology common in older adults, f.) social welfare policies and programs designed to ameliorate stress and promote well-being among older adults, and g.) the political, social, and academic discourse around the concept of aging successfully in the 21st century. Throughout the course, the experience of aging, and the ways in which this experience differs by race, ethnicity, gender, class, culture, and sexual orientation are considered. This course builds on theory, knowledge, and skills of social work with older adults introduced in Foundation Practice and Human Behavior in the Social Environment I and III. This course is relevant to the clinical, management, and policy concentrations, in that it focuses on the concepts, theories, and policies central to effective assessment and intervention with older adults.

SOWK 557 Organizational Behavior: An Introduction to the Art and Science

Whether as an administrator, staff/service provider or board member, or even as a consumer, we all have multiple opportunities to interact with organizations. This course explores the 10 basic components of organizations which impact people, place, processes, and placement. In this seminar-style class, students will contribute as both teachers and learners in the study of how people, as individuals and as groups, operate within the context of change that surrounds today’s organizations. The skills taught in this course will help students think about, advocate within, elicit change from, and lead organizations. We will use a “10-S” model of organizational practice to guide our thinking. This model champions multiculturally competent and examines a number of mezzo- and macro-level influencing factors. For instance, we will consider how even an organization’s physical setting impacts the delivery of its mission. Also examined is the leadership style of organizational administrations as well as the types of staff and their skills, and the agency’s shared values, strategy, structure, systems, and the services provided to diverse stakeholders. In the course of the semester, students will explore these organizational components, their interrelatedness, and reciprocal impacts through individual and small group presentations, self-reflection exercises, and a final paper. A particular emphasis will be placed on ways to invoke both ‘right brain’/synthesizing and non-linear thinking with more ‘left-brain’/analytical methods to better understand the responsibilities and various styles of effective leaders. This class will be interactive, co-constructed, and provide foundational theories and practical skills.

SOWK B558 Managing the Work of Others

This course has as its focus understanding the work for which a supervisor or manager is responsible, the context of that work and the tasks into which the work can be divided. Focusing on the work to be accomplished, the course includes administrative, educational and clinical models of supervision and management. It assumes that most master’s prepared social workers will be overseeing the work of others, either as program directors, managers or supervisors. Literature for the course is drawn from social work, psychology, business, organizational development and social science.

SOWK B559 Family Therapy: Theory & Practice

This seminar considers contemporary theories of family therapy within a historical perspective. Building on approaches associated with communication, inter-actional, structural, intergenerational, feminist, symbolic and psychodynamic theories, the seminar emphasizes practitioner decision-making in family treatment. Experiential learning methods utilizing practice simulations and videotapes are used to focus on a range of social work practice issues including family developmental stages, economic strains, single parent, minority and multi-problem families. Students who have not completed Foundation Practice and the first semester of practicum must have the instructor’s permission to take this course.

SOWK B560 Attachment-Based Psychotherapy

This course is limited to MSS students who are in their second year of field education (including Advanced Standing students). Attachment Theory provides an overarching framework from which to understand our clients’ distress and their attempts to cope with that distress, as well the reparative potential of the therapy relationship. We will consider the centrality of attachment in early development and our ongoing attachment needs and challenges throughout the lifespan. The neurobiological underpinnings of attachment and its central role in affect regulation and neural integration will be discussed. We will look at characteristics of attachment security and styles of attachment insecurity that develop as adaptations to one’s early and current relational world. We will consider how attachment insecurity can become maladaptive, underlying personality organization, symptoms of anxiety and depression, anger expression and
relationship dynamics. We will apply our knowledge of attachment theory to our clinical work by taking a view of the therapeutic (clinical) relationship as an attachment relationship with goals of promoting self-integration, affect regulation, reflectiveness, and the capacity for healthy dependency. In particular we will consider how to understand and work with clients who have early histories of significant trauma, loss, neglect, and/or abuse. The role of nonverbal communication will be emphasized as will the influence of the social worker’s own attachment style. Work with individual adults, couples and families will be discussed, with attention to the interplay of attachment dynamics with culture, class, race, ethnicity, gender expression and sexual orientation. Students will have a chance to draw on attachment theory to better understand the population they work with and apply it to their clinical approach with their clients. The instructor will bring in case examples to discuss from her psychotherapy and supervision practice.

**SOWK B561 Perspectives on Special Education: The Role of Social Workers**

Designed as a survey course, the goal is to introduce graduate-level social work students interested in working in schools to a range of topics, challenges, dilemmas and strategies in understanding and educating all learners, especially those considered to have special learning needs. The field of ‘Special Education’ is vast, thus the nature of a survey course; however, through the assignments students will have an opportunity to narrow their area of interest through a research paper and area of interest by developing a comprehensive learning profile or IEP for a specific student. Throughout the course federal and state legislation, and rules and regulations governing educational law specific to special education populations will be referred to to guide the discussion. However the emphasis will be on clinical material and examples to help students to develop a greater understanding of the populations they will encounter, and how best to work with them and their families.

**SOWK B563 Global Public Health**

This course is open to graduate and undergraduate students and has relevance for students in Praxis, field education, study abroad and various internships (although these practice experiences are not required for the course). Globalization increasingly dictates the availability of social and economic resources as well as access to them, and at the same time presents a shared set of problems such as violence (particularly against women and children), unemployment, HIV-AIDS, poverty and starvation, threats to indigenous populations, and environmental destruction, among others. Changes from globalization require new ways to conceptualize and implement the welfare state and an envisioning of social justice that crosses borders. A domestic perspective and the lens of cultural context are no longer adequate; they require expansion to include geographic context as well as ideas and practices to address troubles shared by nations (such as assimilation) and by populations crossing borders (into areas not always welcoming of them).

**SOWK B564 Group Treatment**

This seminar explores the group dynamics, theory and processes that are applicable to all groups and explores the specific techniques of group therapies. There is an experiential component of this course. A portion of the time will be devoted to examining our own group functioning. Readings and discussions will focus on the major theories of groups and interventions. Topics include leadership skills, client selection, sub-grouping, group conflicts and clinical management of beginning, maintaining and termination stages of groups. Concurrent practice with groups is desirable.

**SOWK B565 Clinical SW Practice With Children/Adolescents**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to some of the theoretical and practice issues related to adapting the clinical social work process to work with children and adolescents. Work in the course will concentrate on a social work framework that stresses the complexity of the person-environment transactions and emphasizes strengths and competencies.

**SOWK B567 Clinical Social Work and Substance Abuse**

This course will introduce students to a range of theories about heavy drinking and addiction, provide an overview of commonly abused substances, and evaluate assessment and treatment strategies employed in work with both individuals and families. Assigned readings and class discussions will explore the special needs and concerns of specific population groups including adolescents, older adults, women, racial and ethnic minorities, and gays and lesbians. The class will examine psychosocial factors affecting both the identification and treatment of substance abusers.

**SOWK B570D Public Ed Issues-School SW (7 weeks)**

This course is designed to prepare the students to integrate the practice of social work into the unique context of the public educational system. The students will examine the various roles and responsibilities of school social workers. By also examining the hierarchy of the educational and legal systems in the United States, the student will gain an understanding of the organizations that school social workers work within and the implications of educational laws and regulations on their work.

**SOWK B571D HSV ED Law (7 weeks)**

This course will provide social work students with a working knowledge of the education and related laws that relate to minors in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with an emphasis on analyzing and interpreting primary legal sources. The students will
learn to identify, locate and discriminate among the various sources of law, as well as understand the hierarchy of the various Federal, State and Local laws and regulations, and how that hierarchy governs their implementation. Students will also examine the complexities of the overlapping, and sometimes conflicting, responsibilities of various agencies involved in the supervision and education of Pennsylvania children, and the role of the social worker within this complex legal and educational framework.

**SOWK B572 Clinical Social Work & Trauma**

This course is intended to provide social work graduate students the opportunity to expand and enrich their knowledge and intervention skills related to trauma theory and clinical practice. The course will emphasize the assessment of trauma exposure, early interventions after trauma exposure, and effective interventions for trauma related distress and disorders. The course will provide students an opportunity to examine theory and practice issues in the context of biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions of trauma. Students will be able to use this course to address specific stress and trauma topics that are important to their own social work education, field experiences, and/or personal interests. Each student will be expected to consider issues of cultural diversity as they relate to and interact with trauma theory and clinical practice.

**SOWK B573 Homelessness**

This is a course in the historical sociology of homelessness and its management in the United States from the early 19th century to the present. It is the story of the various human circumstances and administrative constructions that we refer to under the rubric of homelessness, made intelligible by reference to the history of American livelihood and the development of institutions of social welfare and social control. In some part, then, the course examines the history of social welfare and social control through the lens of a complex problem. The learning objectives for the course are straightforward: Students will learn the history of homelessness in the United States, including its historically variable definitions; students will learn the history of institutions of social control and social welfare; and students will learn the contours of current policy and programmatic considerations in the management of homelessness.

**SOWK B574 Child Welfare Policy/Practice**

This course examines social policies and interventions that address problems of child abuse, neglect, and abandonment. First, child maltreatment and dependency are considered in historical, cross-national, and political contexts. Then, theories and research on the causes and consequences of child maltreatment are studied. The legal and political structure of child welfare services in the U.S. is considered, along with the extent to which this system provides a continuum of care, copes with residual problems of other service sectors (e.g., welfare, mental health, substance abuse, and housing), and prevents or perpetuates oppression of women, children, people of color, and other disadvantaged groups. The course focuses on micro-, meso-, and macro-level practice issues and research findings in the areas of child protection, in-home services, out-of-home care, adoption, treatment, and prevention of child maltreatment. Issues of cultural sensitivity and new directions for practice are considered in each of these areas.

**SOWK B578 Gender and Sexuality**

Sexual issues are present in all aspects of social work practice. Taking a bio/psycho/social approach to human sexuality, this course is designed to increase the student’s comfort and sensitivity to the diversity of sexual issues people face.

Course material will improve the student’s skills in identifying, addressing, and treating sexual issues in practice. Sexual concerns of clients will be examined in a variety of practice settings such as: case management, psychotherapy, schools, child welfare, aging and group work. A variety of sex related topics will be covered including sex through the life span, diagnostic interviewing, sexual development, treatment for sexual concerns and dysfunctions, sexual wellness, sex education, sexual physiology, sexual neurology, and sexual diversity. All materials will be taught using the framework of NASW’s Code of Ethics for social workers dealing with sexually related matters.

**SOWK B583 Clinical Social Work with LGBTQ Population**

This practice course, which will incorporate several macro level issues, will examine: variations in gender presentation and the complex issues associated with different types of gender transitions; the work of managing dual oppressions for LGBTQ communities of color; the differential experience of countertransference and transference with the LGBTQ population; the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol in the LGBTQ population; current practice concerns related to the treatment of HIV/AIDS; work with the developmental stages of “coming out” to oneself and one’s community; alternative family construction and family structures with the LGBTQ population; managing self-disclosure and use of self with LGBTQ clients; attention to policy issues (particularly local ones) that have an impact on LGBTQ societal functioning, access to health care and overall experiences of inequality.

**SOWK B584 Legal Process and Social Work**

This course is an introduction to the American legal system and to legal method. It concentrates on fundamental skills of legal analysis and legal reasoning, the processes by which courts, legislatures and administrative agencies resolve problems, and the interdependence of legal institutions.
SOWK B585 Legal Research Strategies and Socio-Legal Advocacy Roles
This course concentrates on some of the distinctive forms of legal writing and provides practical experience writing case analyses and drafting legal arguments. The course also provides guidance in conducting basic legal research, using a law library, and citing legal materials according to conventional protocols. The ultimate aim is to deepen students’ understanding of the legal dimensions of professional practice and prepare them to research practice-based issues.

SOWK B587 Integrated Health Care and Social Work Practice
This new course explores integrated health care with an emphasis on roles for social workers in multiple setting. The course focuses on integrating physical and mental health, and practice that merges micro and macro perspectives. Content will include theories and practice models focused on the effects of stress and trauma across the life course; the ways that theories of resilience can be applied to practice with diverse populations; and the strengths and challenges inherent in interdisciplinary health practice.

SOWK B588 Cultural and Historical Perspectives on Mental Health in the U.S.
Historical perspectives on mental illness, mental health, and social work engagement are critical for rethinking the role of power, authority, and culture in clinical and community practice today.

Our understandings of familiar diagnostic categories and treatment approaches remain tied to socially and politically rooted constructions of race, gender, sexuality, family, attachment style, ability, and class. We will draw on autobiographical writing and case studies from the 1800s to the present, as well historical scholarship, theory, and students’ own experiences in the field today. Students will learn to critically historicize their own clinical and community-based practice, introducing a vital lens for innovating ways forward with an accountability for the past.

SOWK B676 Making Space for Learning: Pedagogical Planning and Facilitation
Supported by the Teaching and Learning Institute (TLI) and a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this series of pedagogy workshops for graduate students may be taken in its entirety for course credit, or individual workshops may be attended as stand-alone sessions. Seven two-hour workshops focused on a variety of pedagogical issues (e.g., course design, teaching styles, creating culturally responsive classrooms, grading) are scheduled for both the fall and the spring semesters.* These are interactive workshops, some of which require the completion of reading in advance and some of which include discussion of texts during the workshops themselves, but all of which focus on active, collaborative explorations of pedagogical issues. A full list of the workshop topics is available through the Dean’s Office. These workshops count toward the completion of the Dean’s Certificate in Pedagogy (www.brynmawr.edu/gsas/Resources/certificate.html).

SOWK 681 Social Theory
This seminar covers a range of theories useful for understanding social structure and social process at various levels of social organization. The purpose is (1) to increase familiarity with different theoretical perspectives, and (2) to allow practice in identifying and using conceptual frameworks suitable for guiding analysis in dissertations or other professional and scholarly work. In addition to assigned readings discussed in class, students will have the opportunity to prepare and present individual papers based on original texts by one or more major social theorists of their choice.

SOWK B682 Data Analysis I
Data analysis is seen as one step in the research process. Statistical methods of analysis include descriptive and inferential statistics with major emphasis on partial and multiple correlation and regression, and analysis of variance and covariance. Knowledge of the assumptions and conditions under which statistical methods are valid, and discrimination in the selection, application, and interpretation of statistical tests are developed.

SOWK B683 Data Analysis II
Advanced training in multivariate data analysis is preceded by training in file construction on the Vax 8200 computer. Among the topics covered in this seminar are multiple factor analysis, multiple regression analysis and path analysis, time series analysis, logit probit and log linear analysis. The seminar concludes with an introduction to models used in the social sciences. Students are expected to prepare a paper based on an original multivariate data analysis of an existing data base, utilizing the Bryn Mawr Vax 8200 computer and SPSSX.
SOWK B684 Qualitative Inquiry: Methods

This course is the first of a two-semester sequence in qualitative inquiry. Both semesters address the philosophical underpinnings, ethical conundrums, and the assessment of rigor within qualitative research. Course aims for the entire sequence are both conceptual and practical. These courses prepare students for qualitative research that is ethical, rigorous, reflexive, and relevant to social work practice and the enhancement of social work’s evidence base. This first course in this sequence prepares students to conceptualize, design, and carry out research by providing an in-depth understanding of methods, focusing on open-ended interviews, focus groups and ethnographic observations, all designed to deepen students’ understanding of qualitative inquiry and to promote sophistication in using these methods, either alone or with quantitative approaches. The first semester also covers issues such as the role qualitative approaches play in social work research and related disciplines; the development of research problems appropriate for qualitative methods; development of conceptual lens to guide inquiry; reflexivity; sampling strategies; development of interview guides, with appropriate probes; and an introduction to mixed methods. Assignments will include learning how to critique existing qualitative research studies and to plan and collect one’s own data. Students will develop a small class project, consisting of either two intensive interviews or one focus group. These data will be transcribed and loaded into NVivo for analysis in the second course in this sequence, B694 Qualitative Inquiry: Analysis.

SOWK B685 Research Methodology I

This course considers major issues in the design and conduct of empirical research. Students are introduced to historical trends, landmark studies, epistemological and methodological debates, and current issues in social work research. Emphasis is on developing the knowledge and skills necessary to identify relevant and manageable research topics. Experimental and naturalistic research methods are covered, and students read and critique examples of research in these two traditions. Integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches is considered a strength in research design. Examples of faculty research are provided to illustrate applications of research methods at all levels of social work practice.

SOWK B686 Research Methodology II

This is a continuation of Research Methodology I. Survey research and secondary analysis of data are discussed and examples are examined. Important methodological details are then considered along with adaptations required for different types of research. Topics include: sampling, statistical power, measurement, data collection, data management, and the initial phases of data analysis. The course focuses on the knowledge and skills necessary to read research articles critically, plan and cost research proposals, develop research proposals, acquire funding, write research reports, and achieve publication of research findings. Protection of the rights of human subjects and other ethical concerns are taken up throughout the course.

SOWK B689 Applied Development Theory and Translational Research

Core concepts and theories of human development are critical elements of building an integrated approach to research, practice and policy relating to various aspects of the wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities. In particular, developmental science has made important contributions to our work by increasing our understanding of the nature of human development, and processes of risk and resilience. Social work researchers interested in promoting health and wellbeing need to build capacity in the nature of translational research, and the tools needed to apply our understanding of developmental science to a broad range of social problems and issues. A social work perspective places this knowledge in the context of our understanding of poverty, the changing nature of family structure and composition, discrimination, oppression and family/community violence and stress.

SOWK B694 Qualitative Inquiry: Analysis

This course, offered in Semester II, builds on the foundation provided in Qualitative Inquiry: Methods, and is the second course in this two semester sequence in qualitative inquiry. This course prepares students to analyze and report qualitative research that is ethical, rigorous, reflexive, and relevant to social work practice and the enhancement of social work’s evidence base. This class focuses on helping students explore different ways to make sense of qualitative data - how to clean and organize data; how to embark on thoughtful analysis that relies on systematic methods, ethical considerations, and assurances of rigor; and how to prepare and undertake a writing process wherein they detail findings in a credible and useful form. The course explores the philosophical assumptions and practical methodology involved in various analytic strategies for organizing and analyzing qualitative data, using NVivo, a widely used qualitative data analysis software package, supported by Bryn Mawr College. This practical, experiential course addresses various techniques and analytic practices. Students will acquire practice both with analytic depth and analytic breadth as they learn to think deeply within their data, which has been collected and transcribed in Qualitative Inquiry: Methods, as well as how to "zoom out" from their data to place findings in a broader context of scholarly work and theory on their area of focus. Throughout the semester, a focus will be on the practice of analysis and writing up of qualitative data; students should thus come prepared each week to workshop their process in a spirit of collegial critique and exploration.
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<td>Professor</td>
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<td>BROBERG, Merle</td>
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<td>BYERS, David</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<td>CAMPBELL, Jennifer</td>
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<td>CORWIN, Maria DeOca</td>
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<td>Professor Emeritus and the Mary Hale Chase Professor Emeritus in the Social Sciences and Social Work and Social Research</td>
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Margie DuBrow .................................................................................................................. (610) 520-2650
   Director, Non-Profit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI)
Genny Dunne .................................................................................................................... (610) 520-2615
   Career Counselor and Writing Coach
Sue Edgerton ................................................................................................................... (610) 520-2611
   Administrative Assistant to the Dean
Antoinette Harrison ....................................................................................................... (610) 520-2612
   Assistant Dean for Administration, Building Advocate
Laura Henrich .................................................................................................................. (610) 520-2616
   Program Coordinator, Non-Profit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI)
Beth Lewis ....................................................................................................................... (610) 520-2617
   Director of Field Education
Nancy Morrow ................................................................................................................. (610) 520-2609
   Assistant Director of Field Education, Instructor
Peggy Robinson ............................................................................................................... (610) 520-2614
   Director, Center for Professional Development, Certifying Officer– Home and School Visitor Program
Janet Shapiro .................................................................................................................. (610) 520-2618
Dean and Professor; Director, Center for Child and Family Well-Being
Susannah Sinclair ............................................................................................................. (610) 520-2605
   Program Coordinator, Field Education, Child and Family Well-Being, Communications
Sarah Slates, Administrator of Student Services

Research and Teaching Assistants
Cameron Cready-Pyle, GSSWSR Computing Lab Teaching Assistant
Lauren Montemuro, GSSWSR Computing Lab Teaching Assistant
Sarah Slates, GSSWSR Computing Lab Teaching Assistant
Elyse Tierney, GSSWSR Computing Lab Teaching Assistant
College and School Policies
In addition to the policies here, we direct your attention to the College’s Drug and Alcohol Prevention (DAAPP) webpage at www.brynmawr.edu/daapp.

All graduate students are responsible for acting in accordance with the College’s Alcohol and Drug Policies, which are distributed to graduate students each year via the applicable Student Handbook. These policies assert that each student is responsible for conducting herself or himself in ways consistent with federal, state and local laws, and for following College policies regarding alcohol or drug use in the interest of her or his health and well-being. Impairment due to alcohol or drug use is never an excuse for misconduct. The College will not contribute to the cost of a legal defense for those who violate drug or alcohol laws and rules. Alcohol or drug policy infractions may result in disciplinary action, up to and including separation from the College.

When a student is concerned about another student’s alcohol or drug use or its self-destructive potential, she or he may express that concern and, if appropriate, encourage that student to seek confidential help from one of the counselors, nurses or physicians at the College’s Health Center, or from a professional off campus. A student with questions about how best to assist another student may seek guidance from a drug and alcohol counselor, counselor or the Dean. Advice may be sought without revealing the identity of the student needing help, if that seems best.

The Alcohol Policy

The Alcohol Policy is designed to achieve the following goals:

• to remind students of the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the College’s policies, all of which govern their behavior with respect to alcohol;
• to stress moderation, safety and individual accountability for those who choose to drink;
• to maintain a College social atmosphere that is free of coercion for those who choose not to drink and a climate in which alcohol is not the focus of parties or other social events;
• to maintain a College community in which alcohol abuse and its effects are minimal;
• to provide confidential and effective guidance for those with specific needs related to alcohol use and alcoholism; and
• to provide information and education about the effects of alcohol for all students.

All members of the College community are expected to be familiar with and abide by the principles of the Alcohol Policy.

It is the duty of all students to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with this Policy, the College’s other policies, and the GSSWSR Standards of Professional Behavior (pp. 35-36). With regard to the consumption of alcohol, students are responsible for their own well-being. Behavior that puts students at mental, physical and/or legal risk cannot be condoned.

The GSSWSR prohibits alcohol in all required classrooms and class activities. This includes end of semester celebrations held during scheduled class periods.

Alcohol Effects

Alcohol consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts, including spouse and child abuse. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person’s ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol will produce the effects just described.

Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life-threatening. Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver.

Mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome.
These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

1. When community members lose their ability to reason and control their actions due to excessive alcohol consumption, it is threatening to them, to those around them, and ultimately to the community as a whole. Students are urged to accept responsibility for preventing themselves from ever reaching that point.

2. Inebriation shall not be seen as an acceptable or justifiable excuse for disruptive behavior and suspected inebriation will be referred to the Dean.

3. When an individual’s behavior allegedly violates this Policy and/or the College’s other policies, that individual will be referred to the Dean.

4. If there is a threat to the lives or safety of individuals or of damage to College or private property resulting from inebriation or a violation of the Alcohol Policy, immediate action will be taken by the College, up to and including, but not limited to, separation from the College.

5. In some cases, the Dean will consult counselors who have expertise in alcohol abuse and alcoholism if such expertise is deemed relevant. Such consultation will take place only with the knowledge of the student involved.

Students who entertain others should be aware of the responsibilities and risks to the College and to themselves as individual social hosts under the laws of the Commonwealth.

Services and Referrals

Bryn Mawr College provides services and referral for individuals who need help with an alcohol-related problem. For confidential assistance, contact:

- Kay Kerr, M.D., Medical Director, Bryn Mawr College Health Services, The Health Center, 610-526-7360
- Reggie Jones, LCSW, Counseling Director, Bryn Mawr College Health Services, The Health Center, 610-526-7360
- Alcoholics Anonymous Information Center, 311 S. Juniper St., Philadelphia, 215-545-4023
- Alcoholics Anonymous Clubhouse, 562 W. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, 610-527-9711

The Drug Policy

The drug policy is designed to achieve the following goals:

- to remind students that the College’s policies, the federal laws and the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania do apply to their behavior with respect to the use of drugs;
- to stress individual accountability for those who choose to use illegal drugs;
- to maintain a College community where the harmful effects of drug use can be minimized;
- to inform the members of the College community of the availability of confidential and effective guidance and resources for those with questions and concerns related to drug use, dependence and abuse; and
- to encourage all members of the College community to become familiar with the physiological, psychological and legal aspects of drug use, dependence and abuse.

All members of the College community are expected to be familiar with and abide by the principles of the drug policy. This policy stresses prevention and concern; it charges the community with the responsibility for drug education and heightened awareness of campus resources for dealing with drug problems. It also asks us to consider the relationship between the individual and the community, and the question of responsibility to one’s peers. In summary, we have a responsibility not to withdraw from the community by abusing drugs.

The illegal possession, use, sale or distribution of drugs is in violation of the law, and the College will not protect students from prosecution under federal, state or local law.

The College as an educational institution, being concerned about the harmful effects of the illegal use, possession, sale or distribution of drugs on the individual, and on the integrity, safety and security of this academic community, does not condone the illegal use, possession, sale or distribution of drugs.

The administration of Bryn Mawr College reserves the right to act when it has reason to believe that involvement with drugs is having an adverse effect upon the life and/or academic performance of students or adversely affects or legally implicates others in the academic community. College action may take such forms
as education, counseling, referral to outside agencies, separation or exclusion, depending on the situation.

**Procedures**

The following guidelines are not meant to cover all situations. They are intended, instead, to remind students of the variety of resources available and to reassure them about the consequences of seeking help.

When a student is concerned about another student’s drug use and its self-destructive potential, he or she should express his or her concern and, if appropriate, encourage that student to seek confidential help from one of the counselors, nurses or physicians at the Health Center, or from a professional off campus. A student with questions about how best to assist another student may seek guidance from a drug and alcohol counselor, counselor or the Dean. Advice may be sought without revealing the identity of the student needing help, if that seems best.

If a student’s behavior as a result of drug use has disturbed or harmed other individuals or the community in a more general sense, the behavior itself should be brought to the attention of the Dean. The drug use that may have caused the behavior should not be viewed as an excuse, but as a second problem for which the individual may be encouraged to seek help from a professional counselor.

If an individual’s involvement with drugs is such that it, or behavior associated with it, is violent or life-threatening, or if that involvement, such as in the case of the sale or distribution of drugs, may not present immediate danger to life but may have legal implications which are administrative concerns, it should be brought to the attention of the Dean without delay by any member of the community who becomes aware of the situation.

**Policy on Drug-Free Schools**

The unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol poses a threat to the health and safety of all members of the Bryn Mawr College community and is not permitted.

The sanctions for the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol are defined in the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (35 P.S. Sections to 780-144); Controlled Substances Forfeiture (42 Pa.C.S. Sections 6801-6802); the Pennsylvania Crimes Code (18 Pa. C.S. 6307-6314); the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code (75 Pa. C.S. 1546-1547; 3715, 3731); and the Lower Merion Township Code (Article IV, Section 111-4). These statutes are on file at the reference desk in Canaday Library. A summary of federal law and relevant sanctions is also on file.

The College’s policies on disciplinary sanctions for graduate students are stated in the applicable Catalog. Policies on sanctions for faculty and staff are stated in the handbooks appropriate to them. This policy is instituted effective immediately, to comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (P.L. #101-226). No institution will receive federal financial assistance of any kind after October 1, 1990, unless it has certified that it has “adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.”

The College will conduct a biennial review of its program to determine its effectiveness, implement needed changes, and ensure that it is consistently enforced.

**Policy on a Drug-Free Workplace**

The College, as an employer, and students as employees of the College have obligations under the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. Section 701). The College’s statement of compliance is reproduced here.

The use of illegal drugs poses a threat to the health and safety of members of the Bryn Mawr College community. Therefore, the illegal use, possession, dispensation, distribution or manufacture of controlled substances (as defined in federal statutes) by any faculty, staff or student employees in the workplace is not permitted.

As a condition of College employment, every employee shall abide by the terms of this policy, and shall notify their supervisor of any criminal conviction for a violation occurring in the College workplace no later than five days after such conviction.

Any employee found in violation of these prohibitions and regulations may be required to participate in a drug-abuse assistance or rehabilitation program and shall be subject to disciplinary action, which action might include dismissal. Information regarding such assistance or rehabilitation is available through Human Resources and/or the Employee Assistance Program. All of the insurance programs offered to staff, faculty and students through the College provide some form of support to persons in various forms of treatment for substance-abuse problems.
This policy is instituted, effective immediately, to comply with federal laws and regulations. Federal agencies cannot legally award any contract over $25,000 or any grant monies without certification that the College has implemented a drug-free workplace program.

The College also complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (P.L. #101-226). Information on federal and state law imposing sanctions for unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol is available at the reference desk of Canaday Library and in Human Resources.

Information on counseling, treatment and rehabilitation programs is contained in the College’s drug and alcohol policies.

This Handbook’s statements on policies and procedures relating to alcohol and controlled substances form part of the College’s compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.

### Health Risks Associated with the Use of Illicit Drugs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narcotics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morphine</td>
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<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codeine</td>
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<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocodone</td>
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<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hydromorphone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oxycodone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methadone, LAAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fenanyl and Analog</td>
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<td>Other Narcotics</td>
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<td>High-Low</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Barbiturates</td>
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<td>High-Moderate</td>
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<td>Benzodiazepines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glutethamide</td>
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<td>Other Depressants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
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<td>Amphetamine/ Methamphetamine</td>
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<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methylphenidate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Stimulants</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cannabis</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marijuan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tetrahydrocannabinol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hashish and hashish oil</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
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<td>Mescaline and Peyote</td>
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<td>Amphetamine Variants</td>
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<td>Phencyclidine and Analogs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Hallucinogens</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Euphoria</td>
<td>Drowsiness</td>
<td>Respiratory depression</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slow and shallow breathing</td>
<td>Clammy skin</td>
<td>Convulsions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nausea</td>
<td>Coma</td>
<td>Possible death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yawning</td>
<td>Loss of appetite</td>
<td>Irritability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tremors</td>
<td>Panic</td>
<td>Cramps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runny Nose</td>
<td>Chills and sweating</td>
<td>Watery eyes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SMOKING AND FRAGRANCE POLICY

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Clean Indoor Air Act and to enable students, faculty, staff, and visitors to avoid exposure to second-hand smoke, the College has enacted a smoking policy that prohibits smoking in all College owned and leased buildings, College athletic facilities (including fields and spectator areas), and College-owned vehicles. Smoking is also prohibited on the plazas in front of Canaday Library, the Campus Center, and the Park Science Building. This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, contractors and visitors. In addition:

- Smoking is prohibited outdoors within 25 feet of the perimeter of any College building, including arches and covered entrances, to ensure that second-hand smoke does not enter the area through entrances, windows, or ventilation systems.
- Cigarette butts are to be extinguished and placed in appropriate outdoor receptacles. Throwing cigarette butts on the ground or pavement is considered littering.
- “Smoking” also includes the use of e-cigarettes that create a vapor.

The College is committed to assisting students, faculty and staff in making healthy lifestyle choices. Students can go to the Health Center for information and assistance. Faculty and staff who are interested in smoking cessation programs may obtain information from Human Resources. In addition, residents of Pennsylvania can access services available through the PA Free Quitline at 1-800-Quit-NOW (784-8669) or www.determinedtoquit.com/.

Penalties for violation of the College’s smoking policy shall be disciplinary action in accordance with general College provisions for misconduct.

In addition to the smoking policy above, GSSWR also asks that the use of fragrances be minimized to avoid affecting community members with allergies.

PET POLICY

Students and staff are not permitted to bring pets to work. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, Bryn Mawr College will provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities when necessary to ensure equal access to our programs, services and activities.

Although animals are not allowed in College facilities, an appropriately trained service dog will be permitted if necessary to ensure access for a person with a disability. Dogs that are not trained to perform specific tasks that mitigate the effects of a disability, including animals used for emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship, are not considered to be service animals.

The health and safety of Bryn Mawr’s students, faculty, and staff are of utmost importance. The handler is responsible for the overall care and management of the service animal, including appropriate waste clean-up. A service animal should have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless that is not feasible due to the nature of the disability or the dog’s work. If it becomes disruptive or aggressive, or is not housebroken, a service animal may be required to leave the College.

For more information and/or to discuss an accommodation, please contact the Coordinator of Access Services at 610-526-7351.
Student Resources

Office of Campus Safety
X 7911 (if calling from off-campus dial 610-526-7911)

Health Center & Counseling Service
610-526-7360

ProtoCall
(for counseling emergencies when the Health Center is closed)
610-526-7778

Title IX Coordinator
610-526-7630 • titleix_coordinator@brynmawr.edu

Office of the Dean of the Undergraduate College
610-526-5375

Lower Merion Police Department
610-642-4200; call 911 in an emergency if you are off-campus

Graduate Assistants (GAs)
(available from 10 pm to 9 am during the week and on weekends when classes are in session)
Contact Campus Safety or an HA who can call the GA on duty
Introduction

While Bryn Mawr College attempts through its programs and policies to prevent sexual assault from occurring, it recognizes that significant numbers of women throughout the nation are sexually assaulted while they are college students. Bryn Mawr is committed to helping any of its students who have experienced sexual assault. Counselors, health center personnel, residential life staff, campus safety officers, and deans will support a student as she goes through the recovery process. Title IX requires that the College investigate reported and suspected cases of sexual assault. The College is also committed to assisting a student in lodging charges with local police, if she so desires; holding disciplinary hearings to adjudicate formal accusations; and disciplining any student found to have violated the policy concerning sexual assault.

The College also recognizes that most campus sexual assaults involve people who are acquainted with one another. Coercive or violent acts between people who, because of their membership in the College community, must continue to interact with each other are particularly traumatic to the victim and violate the trust that is essential to the College’s mission and sense of community. Therefore, should a sexual assault be reported, the College shall take reasonable action to protect the accusing student from any unnecessary or unwanted contact with the accused.

Options for Students Who Have Been Sexually Assaulted

Any student who is sexually assaulted is strongly encouraged to seek help either from resources available through the College or from outside sources. The following is a short list of options available to students seeking help at Bryn Mawr. More detailed information about each option is provided below.

- You can contact the Bryn Mawr College Health Center (610-526-7360) to receive medical care, speak to a counselor, and/or discuss other options confidentially.
- You can go to Bryn Mawr Hospital (130 South Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010) to receive a medical examination, which is admissible in court as evidence of an assault.
- You can call Bryn Mawr College Campus Safety (x7911, 911 in emergencies) to arrange for transportation to the Health Center or to Bryn Mawr Hospital, and/or to report that a sexual assault has taken place.
- You can contact the Bryn Mawr College Title IX Coordinator, Stephanie Nixon (610-526-6571 or title ix@brynmawr.edu), to report that a sexual assault has taken place and to initiate the College’s investigation.
- You can call Lower Merion Township Police (610-642-4200) to arrange transportation to Bryn Mawr Hospital, to report a sexual assault or to request emergency medical assistance.

Medical Care: You are strongly encouraged to receive medical care after an assault. Because sexual assault can be physically and emotionally traumatic, you may not know whether or not you have been injured.

Medical personnel at the Health Center or the hospital can answer questions you may have about health concerns. A follow-up exam is recommended to retest for pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and to be sure that no other injuries were sustained during the assault.

The on-campus Health Center is able to counsel you on your options for medical care after an assault. An examination done at the Health Center is NOT the same as a rape kit and is not admissible in court as evidence that an assault has taken place. If you think you may wish to press charges at any time, the Health Center personnel will recommend that you go to Bryn Mawr Hospital, where medical evidence can be preserved for the police.

The Health Center is able to check for internal injuries, test for pregnancy and STDs and provide someone with whom you can talk. The Health Center can also provide information and testing for HIV (HIV testing at the Health Center is confidential). The Health Center can provide medication to help prevent STDs. In addition, emergency contraception is available to prevent pregnancy if you go to the Health Center within 72 hours of the assault.

The Health Center will keep all information confidential; the assault will not be reported to the police, Campus Safety, parents or other College personnel without your permission. If it is determined that you or another member of the College community is in danger, necessary information will be released to the appropriate administrators and every effort will be made to protect your identity.

1Title IX is part of the federal Education Amendments of 1972, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex at any educational institution that receives federal funds.
The Health Center can assist you in finding any medical or emotional support that you need, including counseling on- or off-campus.

Bryn Mawr Hospital is able to provide medical services that fulfill legal standards of evidence — a "rape-kit" examination. The rape-kit examination preserves medical evidence that can be used in court. Having a rape kit done does not require you to press charges. It merely gathers evidence should you wish to prosecute at some time. It is recommended that you do not shower, bathe, douche or change clothes if you want to preserve evidence. You may want to bring a change of clothes to the hospital in case your clothing is needed by the police.

Bryn Mawr Hospital will test for pregnancy and STDs, offer medication to prevent STDs, and prescribe emergency contraception. The hospital is required to notify the police that a sexual assault may have occurred.

Montgomery County Victim Services (610-277-5200) has crisis-intervention counselors who are able to explain procedures and answer questions you may have. A 24-hour hotline is available for anyone with questions or concerns about sexual assault, or who would like to speak to a crisis counselor.

Legal Issues: You are not required to report a sexual assault. If you do talk to the police and/or Campus Safety, they may be able to take steps to protect others from experiencing sexual assault. In addition, the police can inform you of your legal rights and options should you decide to prosecute. The College is strongly committed to providing medical and emotional support to victims and survivors of sexual assault regardless of whether they decide to take legal action.

Bryn Mawr College Campus Safety can provide transportation to the Health Center or to Bryn Mawr Hospital. You may wish to notify Campus Safety that a sexual assault has occurred. If you do choose to make a report, the Department and you will then determine whether the assistance and/or intervention of the police is necessary to protect other members of the community and/or to arrest the assailant.

Campus Safety will inform the Dean of the Undergraduate College that an assault has occurred. If it is necessary to alert the community at large that an assault has taken place, both the Department of Campus Safety and the Dean’s Office will make every effort to protect your privacy. If it is necessary to disclose confidential information (in cases involving legal requirements, requirements of the College policy on sexual assault, or if personal safety is at issue), the College will inform you that this is taking place.

Lower Merion Township Police can provide transportation to Bryn Mawr Hospital and emergency medical care if necessary. If you do decide to report the assault to the police, the College will provide a support person if you would like help through the process. Making a police report concerning the assault does not mean that you must prosecute the assailant.

If you are assaulted or need help in Philadelphia, call Women Organized Against Rape at (215) 985-3333.

If you are assaulted or need help at Haverford, call Campus Security at (610) 896-1111.

At Swarthmore, call (610) 328-8333. You can also call Delaware County Women Against Rape at (610) 566-4342.

Further Assistance: If you have any questions about the College’s policies and procedures for dealing with a rape or sexual assault, you should consult Stephanie Nixon, Bryn Mawr College’s Title IX Coordinator at 610-526-6571 or titleix@brynmawr.edu.

Survivor’s Bill of Rights

If you are sexually assaulted, you have basic rights and considerations as a crime victim (including but not limited to):

- Have any allegations of sexual assault taken seriously and without any suggestion that survivors are responsible for sexual assault.
- Be treated with respect and dignity, regardless of gender, gender identity, race, age, income level, physical abilities, cognitive abilities, or sexual, medical and mental health history.
• Have timely access to emergency and crisis counseling services.
• Be accompanied by an advocate while receiving victim services.
• Be informed of legal rights and available resources.
• Be informed of safety planning and protection services.
• Be informed of appropriate follow-up treatment, medical testing and counseling.
• Be notified of options for and assistance with changing academic and/or living situations if so requested and if such changes are reasonably available.
• Have the College conduct a prompt and thorough investigation of the allegation, preserving the privacy of the survivor to the extent possible within the requirements of Title IX.
• Be able to give testimony in a campus hearing by means other than being in the same room with the accused.
• Have a support person present during campus disciplinary proceedings.
• Be informed of the outcome of the sexual assault disciplinary proceedings.
COLLEGE POLICIES ON SEXUAL ASSAULT

Policy Concerning Sexual Assault

No person shall sexually assault any member of the student community. Students shall be free to report any sexual assault without fear of retaliation. Retaliation or threats of retaliation against a student bringing a charge of sexual assault will be treated as a separate and serious violation of College policy.

For the purposes of this policy, sexual assault is defined as any act in which a member of the student community is forced to engage in sexual activity against will or without consent, including situations in which physical sexual acts are perpetrated against a person’s will or when a person is incapable of giving consent due to use of drugs or alcohol, or due to an intellectual or other disability. Consent must be mutual and unambiguously communicated agreement to participate in sexual activity. “Sexual assault” as used in this policy includes not only physically assaultive behavior but also extreme verbal threats, physical or verbal intimidation, and/or indecent exposure. Although Pennsylvania criminal law distinguishes between rape and sexual assault (defining rape as involving penetration), the College policy defines as unacceptable any act in which one person forces another or attempts to force another to engage in any sexual act.

Reporting Procedures

Any undergraduate student who believes they have been sexually assaulted or that an act of sexual assault has taken place may notify any Campus Security Authority, such as the Dean of the Undergraduate College, an Associate or Assistant Dean, the Director of Campus Safety, a Residential Life staff member, a hall advisor, or an athletic coach. Any one of these people will notify the Dean of the Undergraduate College as soon as possible that an accusation of sexual assault has been made.

The first concern of any official to whom an assault is reported will be the well-being of the student reporting the assault. In particular, the official will inform the student of both on- and off-campus resources available and help the student make contact with the resources they choose.

The second concern of College officials must be the safety of the community. If there is reason to believe that an assailant is at large who poses an immediate threat to other members of the community, the Dean of the Undergraduate College and the Director of Campus Safety will take action to protect the campus. In doing so they will reveal no information that might allow the student reporting the assault to be identified, unless compelled by Court process to do so.

After seeing to the well-being of the student reporting the assault and to the immediate security of the campus, the Dean of the Undergraduate College and the Director of Campus Safety will investigate the charge as required under Title IX. Such investigation may involve the examination of physical evidence, the interviewing of persons with relevant information, or other steps which particular circumstances make necessary. In conducting this investigation, the confidentiality and privacy of all parties will be respected to every extent possible.

Charges of sexual assault brought by a Bryn Mawr student against a member of the Bi-College student community, or a guest in the community, will be heard by a Dean’s Panel. Charges of sexual assault brought by a Bryn Mawr student against a member of the faculty or staff will be handled through the College’s procedures concerning sexual harassment and other forms of harassment and discrimination. Both procedures are outlined later in this guide. After the completion of the College’s investigation and any disciplinary proceedings, both the accuser and the accused will be informed of the outcome.

An individual accused of sexual assault may be subject to prosecution under Pennsylvania criminal statutes. A victim is free to bring charges through the College system and the criminal system simultaneously; however, the two processes are separate. It is not necessary for a student to pursue the matter in a criminal court in order to initiate a Dean’s Panel proceeding. Also, the College is not obligated to wait until prosecution procedures are initiated or until a judgment is reached in court in order to proceed with its own decision-making process or to impose penalties.
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, NON-DISCRIMINATION, AND DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT POLICIES

Statement of Principles

- Bryn Mawr College is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all members of its faculty, staff and student body. Bryn Mawr College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age or disability in the administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other College-administered programs, or in its employment practices.

In conformity with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is also the policy of Bryn Mawr College not to discriminate on the basis of sex in its employment practices, educational programs or activities. The admission of only women in the Undergraduate College is in conformity with a provision of the Civil Rights Act. The provisions of Title IX protect students and employees from all forms of illegal sex discrimination, which includes sexual harassment and sexual violence, in College programs and activities.

Inquiries regarding compliance with this legislation and other policies regarding non-discrimination may be directed to the Equal Opportunity Officer (eoo@brynmawr.edu or 610-526-7630) or the Title IX Coordinator (titleix_coordinator@brynmawr.edu or 610-526-7630), who administer the College's procedures.

- The College is firmly committed to academic and professional excellence and to freedom of inquiry and expression for all members of the College community. In order to preserve an atmosphere in which these goals can be pursued, certain norms of civility, based on mutual respect and appreciation of differences, recognition of the rights of others and sensitivity to their feelings, must govern the interactions of all members of the community. The pursuit of these goals and the preservation of this civil atmosphere depend on the active commitment of all community members to making the College's programs and resources as inclusive as possible.

Statement of Procedures Concerning Sexual Harassment and Other Forms of Harassment and Discrimination

I. Policy

It is the policy of Bryn Mawr College to maintain a work and academic environment free from discrimination and offensive or degrading remarks or conduct. Unlawful discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence, will not be tolerated.

II. Definition of Harassment

The College is committed to maintaining an environment in which all members of the community, staff, students and faculty, are treated with respect and dignity. It is the policy of the College not to discriminate on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, in any of its programs, activities or employment practices. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct constitute sexual harassment when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual’s employment or academic treatment, or is accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning one’s job, grades, letters of recommendation, etc.;

2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis of employment or academic decisions affecting such individual; or

3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual’s work performance or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

The College also prohibits this type of behavior when it is based on race, color, age, national origin and religion or on any other basis prohibited by law. Harassment on the basis of one’s sexual orientation can also constitute discrimination on the basis of sex.
III. Behavior That Can Constitute Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment can include verbal behavior such as unwanted sexual comments, suggestions, jokes or pressure for sexual favors; nonverbal behavior such as suggestive looks or leering; and physical behavior such as pats, where such behaviors are severe, offensive, and occur repeatedly unless a single instance is so severe that it warrants immediate action.

Some specific examples of behavior that are inappropriate include:
• Continuous and repeated sexual slurs or sexual innuendoes
• Offensive and repeated risqué jokes or kidding about sex or gender-specific traits
• Repeated unsolicited propositions for dates and/or sexual relations.

IV. Definition of Discrimination

Discrimination is unequal or disparate treatment of groups or individuals, including their exclusion from any of the College’s programs or activities, or any attempt to hinder access to the College’s resources on the basis of race, religion, color, age, national origin, physical ability, sex or sexual orientation. Prohibited sex discrimination includes both sexual harassment and sexual violence. It is important to recognize that not all conduct that might be offensive to an individual or a group necessarily constitutes discriminatory conduct. Whether a specific act constitutes discrimination must be determined on a case-by-case basis in light of all relevant circumstances.

V. Individuals Covered Under This Policy

This policy covers all staff members and faculty members as well as students. The College will not tolerate, condone or allow harassment or discrimination, whether engaged in by fellow staff members, students, faculty members or non-employees who conduct business with the College.

VI. Reporting a Complaint of Harassment or Discrimination

If College community members believe they are being harassed or discriminated against by staff members, students or faculty members or any other person in connection with a community member’s obligations at the College, or if a community member is aware that another member has been harassed or discriminated against, it is the community member’s responsibility to take the following steps:

• Staff or faculty members should take action immediately by discussing their concerns with their supervisor, the Director of Human Resources, the Equal Opportunity Officer or the Title IX Coordinator.
• Students should take action immediately by discussing their concerns with their dean, the Equal Opportunity Officer or the Title IX Coordinator.
• If community members are uncomfortable for any reason in discussing this issue with these individuals, community members may contact the President of the College or a Staff and Faculty Liaison, who will help community members to find appropriate College officials with whom to discuss their concern.
• The College encourages prompt reporting of complaints so that a rapid response and appropriate action may be taken. No retaliation against employees or students who make a good-faith report of a violation of this policy will be tolerated.

VII. Investigating the Complaint

The College will investigate promptly all complaints of violations of this policy. The investigation will include interviews with the parties who are directly involved and possibly with others. These interviews may be conducted by the Equal Opportunity Officer, the Title IX Coordinator, deans, Campus Safety officers or others as the circumstances warrant. Both parties will have an opportunity to present any information that they have to those investigating a complaint, and both will be kept informed in a timely manner of information used in the investigation to the extent possible, consistent with FERPA and confidentiality constraints. Both parties will be updated periodically regarding the status of the investigation. In its investigation, the College will find that harassment/discrimination has occurred if the information collected indicates that it is more likely than not that sexual harassment or sexual violence occurred. The College will complete its investigation within 60 days after its receipt of a complaint, unless circumstances not within the reasonable control of the College require additional time, in which case both parties will be informed of the delay and the reason therefor. Each situation will be responded to promptly and handled as expeditiously and discreetly as possible.
VIII. Resolving the Complaint

If the College determines that this policy was violated, it will take corrective action as warranted by the circumstances. Resolution of complaints against Bryn Mawr College students and employees can include requiring an apology, transfer, direction to stop the behavior, counseling or training, suspension without pay or termination of employment, or, in the case of students, temporary separation or permanent exclusion from the College. Both parties involved will receive written notice of the resolution of the complaint within one week of the conclusion of the investigation. If it is determined that sexual harassment or sexual violence did occur, the College will include in its resolution steps to prevent a recurrence of harassment and, when applicable, steps to correct the discriminatory effects on the complainant and others.

If an investigation results in a finding that the complainant falsely accused another of harassment knowingly or in a malicious manner, the complainant will be subject to appropriate sanctions, up to and including termination of employment or, in the case of students, up to and including permanent exclusion from the College.

POLICY CONCERNING SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND FACULTY OR STAFF MEMBERS

Fulfilling the mission of Bryn Mawr College to provide a rigorous education and to encourage the pursuit of knowledge as preparation for life and work depends upon the existence of a relationship of trust, respect and fairness between faculty or staff members and students. Romantic and/or sexual relationships between faculty or staff members (including teaching assistants) and students threaten this relationship. Further, the unequal nature of their respective roles calls into question a student’s ability to fully consent to a romantic and/or sexual relationship with a faculty or staff member. The College considers such a relationship, even if believed to be consensual, to violate the integrity of the student/faculty or student/staff relationship, and to be unethical and unacceptable.

In acting on complaints regarding sexual relationships that come to the College’s attention, it will be presumed that any complaint by a student against a faculty or staff member is valid if sexual relations have occurred between them. In addition, third parties, including other students, parents, and other faculty/staff members, may report suspected violations of this policy. All complaints will be investigated and should allegations of such a relationship be substantiated, the College will take appropriate disciplinary action against the involved faculty or staff member, up to and including termination of employment.