VII. Course Catalog Descriptions

a. Foundation Year Courses (30 Units)

MSW 500 Foundations of Social Work (3) Understanding the mission and purpose of social work practice, social justice and diversity, ethical foundations for the profession, and emerging themes and models of resiliency-informed practice. Includes communication and engagement skills, generalist practice principles, and the specific roles in professional practice.

MSW 501 Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3) Addresses human development across the lifespan. Explores multiple theoretical perspectives, including psychodynamic, cognitive, psychosocial, systems, biosocial, and ecological theories. Emphasizes the application of these theories to social work practice. Investigates the impact of human diversity and the social environment on lifespan development.

MSW 510 Generalist Practice I: Individuals (3) Addresses generalist social work practice with diverse individuals within a person-in-environment perspective. Emphasizes core social work knowledge, values, and skills within the context of evidence informed engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation.

MSW 511 Generalist Practice II: Families and Groups (3) Addresses generalist social work practice with diverse families and groups within a person-in-environment perspective. Emphasizes core social work knowledge, values, and skills within the context of evidence informed engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation.

MSW 512 Generalist Practice III: Organizations and Communities (3) Social work intervention in organizational and community practice. Knowledge and skills of working with organizations and communities to promote social and economic justice, sustainable services and programs, and evidence-based practice.

MSW 520 Social Welfare Policy (3) Examines social welfare policies and services in the United States; diverse social, political, and economic assumptions underlying the social welfare system, including global context; and the role of the social work profession in developing social policy, addressing social problems, and advancing social and economic justice.

MSW 525 Law and Ethics in Social Work (3) Examines social work ethics, values, and related laws within a framework of culturally informed social work practice and social justice. Emphasizes the knowledge and skills social workers need in order to effectively work within the social service and legal systems on behalf of clients and constituents.

MSW 540 Field Instruction I (3) First course of a foundation two-semester sequence. Supervised practice in a social services or related agency developing basic micro, mezzo, and macro skills with an emphasis on culturally informed social work practice.

Field seminar and 16 hours weekly supervised agency field experience. *Graded Credit/ No Credit.*

MSW 541 Field Instruction II (3) Second course of a foundation two-semester sequence. Supervised practice in a social services or related agency developing basic micro, mezzo, and macro skills with an emphasis on culturally informed social work practice. Field seminar and 16 hours weekly supervised agency field experience. *Graded Credit/ No Credit. Prerequisite: MSW 540.*

MSW 550 Research Methods in Social Work (3) Introduction to research methods in social work and the critical appraisal of empirical research. Explores quantitative, qualitative, mixed research methods, and ethical issues in the conduct of research. Primarily focuses on foundational research knowledge and skills fundamental to evidence-based practice in social work.

b. Specialization Year Courses

MSW 602 Clinical Assessment and Evidence Based Treatment (3) Explores the most common mental disorders and evidence-informed treatments encountered in social work practice. Applies the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders and examines evidence-informed treatments with diverse populations. Emphasizes strengths and ecological systems perspectives, risk and resiliency factors, and the impact of biological, psychological, cultural and other factors.

MSW 629 Trauma and Addiction (3) Explores the multi-systemic impact of trauma and substance use on individuals, families, and communities. Emphasizes the treatment of trauma and substance use across the lifespan with diverse populations utilizing trauma informed approaches, including Motivational Interviewing and cognitive behavioral interventions.

MSW 636 Policy and Administration (3) Explores policy, administrative, and management practices necessary for advocacy in social service organizations and larger communities. Further examines perspectives on social problems, approaches to the development and analysis of social welfare policies, and the structure of the policy-making and implementation process for policy advocacy.

MSW 642 Advanced Field Instruction I (3) First course of a two-semester advanced field practicum with an emphasis on culturally informed advanced social work practice. Supervised practice in a social services or related agency developing advanced social work skills. Field seminar and 20 hours of weekly supervised agency field experience. *Graded Credit/ No Credit.*

MSW 643 Advanced Field Instruction II (3) Second course of a two-semester advanced field practicum with an emphasis on culturally informed advanced social work practice. Supervised practice in a social services or related agency developing

advanced social work skills. Field seminar and 20 hours of weekly supervised agency field experience. *Graded Credit/ No Credit. Prerequisite: MSW 642.*

MSW 650 Program Evaluation and Research Methods (3) Development of quantitative and qualitative research skills for evaluation and enhancement of social work practice. Emphasizes research designs, practice evaluation, program evaluation, grant writing, and basic statistics.

c. Culminating Experience/Thesis

MSW 695 Thesis I (3) Under the guidance of a thesis advisor, complete a thesis proposal and literature review for a research study that will have a positive contribution to the field of social work. Prepare instruments and IRB protocol as applicable. *Graded Credit/ No Credit.*

MSW 698A Culminating Experience: Comprehensive Exam (3) Completion of a comprehensive exam as the culminating experience in the MSW program. Applies learning activities focused on social work competencies to enhance professional practice and to prepare for the comprehensive exam. *Graded Credit/ No Credit.*

MSW 698B Culminating Experience: Thesis II (3) Completion of a thesis as the culminating experience in the MSW program. Under the guidance of a thesis advisor, complete a thesis informed by social work core competencies. *Graded Credit/ No Credit.*

MSW 699 Culminating Experience/Thesis Extension (1) Culminating experience continuation for students who require additional time. Registration limited to students with a grade of Report in Progress (RP) in MSW 698. May be repeated. *Graded Credit/ No Credit.*

d. Electives (Only a couple of electives will be available each semester)

MSW 599 Independent Study in Social Work I (1-3) Students actively engage in intensive and independent study of a special area in social work or social welfare.

MSW 630A Advanced Direct Practice I: Individuals /CYF (3) Direct practice with children, youth, and families, related to individual functioning and interpersonal interactions. Various theoretical approaches. Ecological systems framework with additional focus on multicultural issues.

MSW 631A Advanced Direct Practice II: Groups & Families /CYF (3) Advanced direct practice skills for working with individuals, families, and groups in children, youth, and families settings. Family and group treatment models. Assessments and interventions with an emphasis on cultural competency.

MSW 630B Advanced Direct Practice I: Individuals /BH (3) Direct practice course working with individuals in behavioral health settings. Various theoretical approaches. Emphasis on integrated care, and the recovery paradigm in mental health services. Additional focus on multicultural issues.

MSW 631B Advanced Direct Practice II: Groups & Families /BH (3) Direct practice skills for working with individuals, families, and groups in behavioral health settings. Family and group treatment models. Assessments and interventions with an emphasis on cultural competency.

MSW 652 Advanced Social Work Practice in Schools I (3) Addresses the specific knowledge and skills required for advanced social work practice in a school setting. Examines roles, responsibilities and the functions of a social worker in educational settings to promote well-being and system change. Emphasizes meeting the needs of diverse student populations and families from a micro-practice perspective. Course content is designed to meet and exceed the Pupil Personnel Services Credential Program Standards set forth by the State of California.

MSW 653 Advanced Social Work Practice in Schools II (3) Addresses the specific knowledge and skills required for advanced social work practice in a school setting. Examines roles, responsibilities and the functions of a social worker in educational settings to promote well-being and system change. Emphasizes meeting the needs of diverse student populations and families from a macro-practice perspective. Course content is designed to meet and exceed the Pupil Personnel Services Credential Program Standards set forth by the State of California.

MSW 655 Social Work Leadership Practice (3) Applies program design, strategic planning, problem solving, human resources, supervision, administration, resource development, budgeting, quality assurance, and public relations in social work leadership practice. Examines theories of organizational behavior and management, and the impact of diversity issues within organizations.

MSW 656 Motivational Interviewing (3) Explores Motivational Interviewing (MI) as a research informed intervention with individuals, groups, and families. Emphasizes the implementation of the knowledge and skills involved in this approach with diverse populations and in various practice settings.

MSW 658 Core Concepts in Trauma (3) Utilizes a case-based learning format to understand child and adolescent trauma, trauma responses, and implications for multi-level interventions. Emphasizes the role of development, culture, and empirical evidence in trauma-specific case conceptualization and treatment planning. Addresses the level of functioning of primary caregiving environments and assesses the capacity of the community to facilitate restorative processes.

MSW 660 Acceptance and Mindfulness-Based Interventions (3) Explores acceptance and mindfulness-based therapeutic approaches with diverse individuals and

groups. Addresses engagement, assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluation approaches from a mindful and values-focused perspective.

MSW 661 Social Work in Health Care (3) Roles and responsibilities of social workers as part of an interdisciplinary health care team. Culturally competent social work in acute, ambulatory, preventive, long-term, and palliative care settings. Ethical dilemmas in social work in health care.

MSW 662 Social Work with Older Adults (3) Examines an ecosystemic and culturally informed approach to the biological, cultural, ethnic, gender, geographic, psychological, and social issues of relevance to older adults. Explores theories on aging and assessments and interventions in social work with older adult populations.

MSW 665 Poverty and Inequity (3) Provides an in-depth study of poverty and inequity in the United States. Examines poverty measurement, theories, underlying causes, and consequences of poverty. Addresses how poverty and inequity shape public policy and considers the impact of poverty and inequity on special populations.

MSW 667 Addictions: Assessment and Treatment (3) Survey of various addictions, alcohol use, and substance use. Assessment and treatment issues across the lifespan and with diverse populations. Clinical, ethical, legal, and policy issues. Emphasis on strengths-based, multicultural practice.

MSW 670 Cognitive and Brief Therapies (3) Cognitive and brief treatment approaches, including cognitive behavior therapy, solution focused therapy, and narrative therapy. Evidence-based treatment applications. Assessment and intervention issues across the life span. Integrating diversity considerations within a strengths-based perspective in social work practice.

MSW 671 Direct Practice with Military and Veteran Families (3) Develops advanced practice social work skills for treating the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of diverse military and veteran couples and families. Emphasis is on supporting resilience through treatment, case management, advocacy, empowerment, and resources.

MSW 672 Direct Practice with Military Personnel and Veterans (3) Develops advanced practice social work skills in providing evidence-based therapy to active duty military personnel and veterans experiencing bio-psycho-social and spiritual challenges. Emphasis is on strength, resilience, and community-based models, in addition to traditional clinical treatment approaches.

MSW 690 Selected Topics in Social Work (1-3)
Various topics of special interest in social work. May be repeated for credit as topics change for a total of six (6) units.