Welcome

PhD Program: Come Research with Us!

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Things I’ll cover in this presentation:

1) What is a PhD? And What can you do with it?
2) Structure of the PhD
3) Curriculum focus of the PhD
4) Qualifications and application process and information
5) Q & A
Why a Social Work PhD?

You have a passion for social work and research

• **Passion for social work**
  
  - You want further social justice, and you want to help individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities to cope with social challenges and to thrive.
  
  - Some social challenges that you may work with include, substance abuse, mental health, child abuse and neglect, concerns facing the elderly, and many more.

• **Passion for research**
  
  - You are interested in research as your tool or method to further these social work goals.
  
  - (Note: Social Work uses quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research)
Generally speaking, what is a PhD?
A degree that provides you with the knowledge and skills to become an independent researcher and scholar.

What can you do with it?

- **Faculty member** – research, teaching, service
- **Researcher** – government, agency, hospital, other research organizations
Structure of Ohio State’s PhD Program

- **Coursework – 2 years full-time**
  - Core courses (Predominantly knowledge, theory and research focused)
  - Statistics and Research courses
  - Specialization courses – Student designed collection of courses
- **Candidacy Exam – 6 months to 1 year**
  - Committee of 4 faculty mentors
- **Dissertation – 1 – 2 years**
  - Committee of 3 faculty mentors
- **Average total: 4-5 years**
Focus of Curriculum: Translational Science

Basic Research
- Population studies and other methods to understand the problem

Develop Interventions
- Theory-driven using empirical findings of problem and mechanisms of change

Controlled Test of Interventions
- Efficacy
- Effectiveness

Transport to usual care setting
- Dissemination
- Implementation
- Adoption
- Adaption

Similar to medicine

Research

Practice
Is a Social Work PhD a fit for me?

• Aspire to a career as a social work researcher and educator
• Use research to address social work problems
• Have a passion about for a particular research area, population or practice area
• One or more faculty share your research interests and can mentor you
• Have the energy, patience and determination to meet the challenges and demands of the PhD process
Qualifications

- Embrace social work values and mission

- Research experience
- Practice experience
- Professional writing ability
- Basic understanding of statistics
Options

• Full-time PhD
• Part-time PhD
• MSW-PhD
• Two programs one admission process
Financial Support

• **Graduate Research or Teaching Associateship (GRA or GTA)**
  • Stipend and tuition benefits for providing research and/or teaching services

• **Additional Support**
  • Laptop and software
  • Conference Presentation Travel funds
  • Seed Grant funds
  • Awards
  • Research Office Support
Application Materials

• Background and Professional Goals Statement
• Resume or CV
• Writing Sample
• 3 Letters of Recommendation
• Transcripts
• GPA - Undergraduate/most recent relevant degree GPA of 3.0 or above* (3.5 for MSW-PhD applicants from the bachelor’s degree)
• Program and GA application
Links:

csw.osu.edu
  • PhD – How to Apply
  • PhD - Curriculum
  • PhD – Doctoral Student Profiles
  • Faculty Directory

gpoadmissions.osu.edu
  • Find Your Program

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