

4. two reference forms (from diverse sources such as academic, professional, personal)
Reference forms for distribution to your referees can be found here: STU.ca/mmbsw.
Please refer your references to the MMBSW Reference Guideline (also on STU.ca/mmbsw) and advise them of the January 31 deadline for the program.
5. official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions you have attended. Please note, if you have a STU transcript, you will not need to submit it, as our Admissions Office has access to it.

*Please submit an online application for admission at STU.ca/apply. Click "Sign Up" and follow the instructions to sign-in to the online application portal. Once you are signed in, click "Start a New Application," followed by "Start Application" under the Post-Degree Program section. Select the Mi'kmaq/Maliseet Bachelor of Social Work program, your anticipated enrolment status (Full-time or Part-time) and the Fall (Sept- Apr) 2020 term. You will be prompted to pay the application fee at the end of the application. All other supplementary documents (personal statement, personal current résumé) can be emailed to the Admissions Office at admissions@stu.ca.

For further information, please see our MMBSW Application Instructions 2020-2023 on STU.ca/mmbsw. Please also refer to the Application checklist on your applicant portal (once your application for admission has been submitted) to make sure you haven't forgotten anything. As your documents are received by the Admissions Office, they will be marked as received on your checklist.

Stage 2

As part of the application process, all eligible candidates will be contacted to attend a group interview with two social work faculty members and complete a written social issue analysis.

All applicants will receive a letter indicating the status of their application. The letter will be mailed to the address entered on the online application form.

For further information, please contact:

Sandra Germain
MMBSW Program Coordinator
sgermain@nbnet.nb.ca or sgermain.listuguj@gmail.com

C. Master of Social Work

During the Master of Social Work program, students will have the opportunity to strengthen and deepen their knowledge and skills in their chosen area of practice so that they may respond more effectively to social issues at the personal, family, cultural, community, and socio-political levels.

Course objectives are congruent with the overall objectives of the program, and practice experience and applied elements form an integral part of each course. Specific skill development in each student's area of interest will take place in assignments and the field practicum and thesis options.

The MSW courses and field education aim to:

- foster the development of professional social workers who are knowledgeable, skilled, and committed to social justice
- prepare graduates to make ethical decisions and perform professional tasks informed by research evidence and an understanding of socio-political contexts
- develop student leadership skills in facilitating organizational, community, and policy change
- promote critical inquiry and consider diverse perspectives
- develop student knowledge and skills to integrate an intersectional analysis and approach to social work practice
- strengthen existing partnerships with community social service and health-related agencies through collaboration on field practicums, curriculum, and student placement opportunities

Admission to the Master of Social Work

Prerequisites

Applicants must satisfy the following minimum requirements:

A Bachelor of Social Work degree from a recognized university with a minimum GPA of 3.5 (on a 4.3 scale). Students in their final year of a BSW program are eligible to apply and may be given provisional acceptance pending completion of degree requirements by May 30 of the year of entry to the MSW program. Students who will complete their degree requirements beyond May 30 may be considered on an individualized basis.

Applicants who do not satisfy these minimum requirements are not considered further in the selection process.

A minimum of 1500 hours or one-year, full-time equivalent of social work-related work experience. This may be paid or volunteer work, but must not include field placement, practicum, or co-op work. Experience must be clearly demonstrated through the submission of a curriculum vitae.

Enrolment in the MSW program is limited to 16 students each year and admission is highly competitive. Applicants will be assessed on academic and professional readiness. Satisfying the minimum requirements will not guarantee admission.

Application Deadline

The application deadline for the program is November 15. All application materials and supporting documents must be received by the Admissions Office on or before the deadline.

Educational Equity Admissions Policy

The School of Social Work has adopted an Educational Equity Admissions Policy for those applicants who have been disadvantaged and/or marginalized by some form of oppression. The policy recognizes that some students may have experienced structural barriers due to identification with a specific group or because of labels imposed on them by society. Students

wishing to be considered under the Educational Equity Admissions Policy must indicate their request on the application form. In addition, students must complete the Equity Statement by identifying which form of oppression has impacted their life through marginalization or barriers that have limited their access to social institutions. Educational Equity Statements are considered during the second stage of the admission process only for applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements outlined above in "Prerequisites," subsection 1. The Equity Statement may be found at STU.ca/SocialWork.

Admission Criteria

Personal Statement	50%
Curriculum Vitae	25%
References	15%
GPA	10%

Note: Prospective applicants must score a minimum of 50% in each of the first three criterion to be considered eligible for admission.

The School of Social Work reserves the right to interview an applicant should it be necessary to evaluate professional readiness for the program.

Application Procedures

After the first intake of the program, applications become available online on September 1 each year. A completed application includes:

- a completed general application form for admission to the program found at www.stu.ca/ApplyNow
- a non-refundable application fee of \$100
- a personal statement. See the Guidelines for Personal Statement section below
- a detailed curriculum vitae outlining all relevant work, research and volunteer experience for the past five years
- two letters of reference that must be sent directly to the Admissions Office by your referees. If you are currently in university, or if you have been out of university for two years or less, submit one academic reference from a university instructor and one reference from a supervisor from your most recent paid employment. If you have been out of university for more than two years you may provide two references from employers, with one being from your most recent employer. Please refer your references to the Reference Letter Guidelines section below.
- official transcript from an accredited BSW program. If you have a STU transcript you will not need to submit it as our Admissions Office has access to it.

Notification of Admission Status

For the first intake of the program, applicants for admission to the Master of Social Work program will receive written notice of their admission status on an on-going basis. After the first intake, applicants will receive written notice of their admission status by February 15.

Registration

Following acceptance to the program, MSW students must register for the program by the deadline specified in their letter of offer. Any student not registering by the registration deadline will be required to re-apply for admission. To register, follow the steps below.

- Contact your assigned faculty advisor to discuss and review your program of study.
- Obtain written approval of your program of study from your faculty advisor well in advance of registration.

Guidelines for Personal Statement

Your personal statement should be no more than 1,500 words, double-spaced, and in 12-point font. Please respond to the following:

- Describe the experiences, skills, qualities, and/or personal identities (e.g. disability status, racialized identity, gender, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, etc.) that you bring that would be helpful in working with diverse populations.
- Drawing from your work experience, indicate with examples what interests you about structural approaches to social work. How do you expect to learn and achieve your career goals within the context of the MSW program at St. Thomas University?
- Indicate your current scholarly and professional interests and how the MSW program at St. Thomas University will help you achieve these. This information will be used to inform advance practicum and thesis options.
- Clearly indicate whether you are applying to the thesis or advanced practicum option.

Reference Letter Guidelines

For your reference letters, you should provide the following information to those acting as a reference.

Thank you for agreeing to provide a reference for an applicant to St. Thomas University's Master of Social Work program. Your comments will be considered carefully by our Admissions Committee. Professional suitability is weighted heavily in our selection process. You can be of help to the applicant by sharing observations on the applicants professional and academic suitability. Because of the nature of the program and the profession, it is critical that persons with suitable personal qualities be selected. Your comments on the candidate's qualities that will affect their performance as a social worker are of particular interest to us.

Our MSW focuses on advanced clinical practice with a structural lens and will provide students with advanced theory and practice skills in three major areas: (1) professional leadership, (2) social work supervision, and (3) advanced direct practice skills development.

The courses offered are based on the application of structural social work theory which places major emphasis on understanding the structural roots of personal and social problems. The program prepares social workers to analyze and challenge sites of privilege, as well as to assist individuals and groups who are experiencing the effects of marginalization and oppression. The program's objectives are consistent with the mission and social justice statements of St. Thomas University and its School of Social Work.

Please speak to the applicant's ability to succeed in graduate studies and discuss the applicant's strengths and qualities. Some areas you might consider speaking to:

- Academic ability
- Time management skills
- Written and oral communication skills
- Organization skills
- Ability to work with others
- Capacity for independent thought and critical thinking
- Ability to complete responsibilities
- Additional information or comments that you would consider helpful in assessing the applicant's suitability for this master's program
- Any concerns and/or areas for further self/professional development

Wherever possible, reference letters should be submitted on formal letterhead and be dated and signed by the writer. Letters may be submitted electronically to admissions@stu.ca

Thank you again for your assistance. Your comments will be treated confidentially.

Master of Social Work Program Structure

The Master of Social Work program is a full-time, one-year, professional-based graduate degree program offered to students with a first level Social Work degree from a university program accredited by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE).

CASWE Standards for Accreditation recognizes a Bachelor of Social Work as providing students with knowledge and skills for generalist practice. CASWE distinguishes curriculum at the Master's level as providing provides knowledge and skills in research and scholarship, professional leadership, social work supervision, advanced practice and/or areas of specialization. The learning objectives for the MSW reflect an advanced level of knowledge and skills in selected major areas of social work practice.

The MSW at St. Thomas University focuses on advanced clinical practice with a structural lens providing students with:

- advanced theory and practice skills in professional leadership and social work supervision
- advanced direct practice skills development

The program's objectives are consistent with the mission and social justice statements of St. Thomas University and its School of Social Work. Courses are based on the application of structural social work theory which places major emphasis on understanding the structural roots of personal and social problems. The program prepares social workers to analyze and challenge sites of privilege, as well as to assist individuals and groups experiencing the effects of marginalization and oppression.

The program consists of thirty-three credit hours:

- eight three-credit hour courses
- option of completing either a thesis or an advanced field practicum for an additional nine credit hours.

Thesis Option - 9 credit hours

The Master thesis must demonstrate mastery of advanced clinical social work practice located within the relevant literature. The thesis will be based on independent study and research which is of theoretical, historical, or empirical focus.

Advanced Practicum Option – 9 credit hours

The advanced field practicum requires the student to complete 450 hours of field practice experience where the focus is on specialized skills and knowledge in social work practice, as arranged by the School of Social Work.

Program Regulations

Students are accepted into the MSW on a full-time basis. There is a three-year limit (9 academic terms) to complete the degree requirements of 33 credit hours.

Fall Semester

SCWK 6013 Advanced Theory for Direct Practice I (3)

SCWK 6053 Research and Evaluation in Social Work I (3)

SCWK 6043 Advanced Theory for Social Policy (3)

Elective Course (3) Course may be taken within Social Work or in another unit.

Winter Semester

SCWK 6023 Advanced Theory for Direct Practice II (3)

SCWK 6063 Research and Evaluation in Social Work II (3)

SCWK 6033 Advanced Theory for Social Administration (3)

SCWK 6093 Seminar for Research Proposal (Thesis Option) (3)

Spring Semester

SCWK 6119 Field Education Seminar (Advanced Field Placement Option) (3)

SCWK 6129 Advanced Field Placement (9) (450 hours)

SCWK 6129 Thesis (9)

D. School of Social Work Policies

Please see: <https://stu.ca/socialwork/policies/> for all School of Social Work policies.

E. Social Work Courses

Bachelor of Social Work courses offered at the Fredericton campus (F) of St. Thomas University are open to Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) students, only. Courses for the MMBSW program are offered off campus. The courses in the MMBSW Program are available to MMBSW students, only. Courses for the MSW are for MSW students only.

SCWK-2013. Introduction to Social Welfare (5)

An examination of the history, philosophy, and development of social welfare as a social institution in New Brunswick and elsewhere. Analysis of the institution and its relationship to the history, philosophy, and values of the profession of social work.