School of Applied Social Studies
University College Cork, Ireland

Founded in 1845, University College Cork (UCC) is situated in south-west Ireland, and is one of the country’s oldest institutes of higher education. Originally established as Queen’s College, today it is a progressive, dynamic university of over 20,000 students studying full-time and part-time programmes, at both undergraduate and post-graduate levels.

The School of Applied Social Studies is one of the oldest and most diverse in UCC. It has some 30 full-time academic staff teaching and researching in the three core disciplinary areas of social policy, social work and community development. The School therefore has a strong orientation towards the education of practitioners and a commitment to the integration of theoretical analysis, research and practice issues. Because of the nature of its programmes, the School has strong links with key external statutory and voluntary agencies, both within Ireland and abroad.

The course has a wide range of placements within both Ireland and abroad.

MSW Programme Structure

Year 1 (60 credits)
- Academic Curriculum
  - Child and Family Welfare 1; Human Growth and Development; Reflective Counselling; Social work and the Law 1 (The Rights of Vulnerable Persons); Practice Skills 1; Social Policy, Social Exclusion & Anti-Discriminatory Practice; Social Work Settings 1; Social Work Theory 1: Theory and Practice, Groupwork, Community Work, Applied Social Research.
- Fieldwork Placement
  - 14 week Fieldwork Placement and group tutorials, individual tutorials, continuous assessment and placement-based learning.
- Presentation
  - Conference Presentation.

Year 2 (60 credits)
- Academic Curriculum
  - Child and Family Welfare 2; Social Work and the Law 2 (The Rights of Vulnerable Persons); Practice Skills 2; Social Work Settings 2; Social Work Theory 2: Theory and Practice; Group and Individual Tutorials.
- Fieldwork Placement
  - 14 week Fieldwork Placement and group tutorials, individual tutorials, continuous assessment and placement-based learning.
- Dissertation and Practice Research
  - Group and Individual Tutorials.

MSW Programme Entry Requirements

Applicants must hold at least a 2.2 Honours BSocSc Degree (or its equivalent) or graduates, who have successfully completed an approved conversion programme, i.e. the Higher Diploma in Social Policy (or its equivalent).

Applicants with a 3H can apply for the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies.

Candidates are required to have a minimum of 470 hours of social work related experience and initiative; knowledge of social work and social work related practice on the day of their interview. A minimum of 3 years social work related experience is also required. To be eligible for interview, candidates must have completed 300 hours of social work related work placement in order to progress on the programme and be awarded the degree.

Fitness to Practise Policy and meet the relevant Fitness to Practise standards in Ireland and abroad.

MSW Entry Requirements:

- Applicants must hold at least a 2.2 Honours BSocSc Degree (or its equivalent) or graduates, who have successfully completed an approved conversion programme.

- Applicable to all applicants.

Application


For informal enquiries, please email the School Social Work Executive Assistant, MSW@ucc.ie

For application queries, please contact:
Graduate Studies Office,
UCC, Cork, Ireland
Tel: +353 (0)21 4902876
Email: graduates@ucc.ie
Visit the MSW website:

Why Study for your MSW in UCC?

» Provides a range of modes of education - evening and weekend classes

» Present opportunities for practice research, including action research and community-based research

» Fosters a tradition of critical education, research and reflective practice

Is nationally and internationally recognised for teaching and research.

UCC is also Ireland’s first five star university and is ranked in the top 2% of universities worldwide, based on the quality of its research output and peer esteem.

What is Master of Social Work (MSW)?

The Master of Social Work is a two-year full-time programme, accredited by the Postgraduate Application Centre (PAC), that presents opportunities for practice research, including action research and community-based research.

Successful completion of the programme leads to an academic qualification and will make the student eligible to register as a social worker with regulatory bodies in Ireland and Internationally.

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- Is accredited by the Health and Social Care Professional Council (CORU) with International recognition

- Is nationally and internationally recognised for teaching and research

- Provides students with a wide range of practice placements

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What is Master of Social Work (MSW)?

The Master of Social Work is a two-year full-time programme, accredited by the Health and Social Care Professionals Council (CORU), that combines academic study with fieldwork placements. Successful completion of the programme leads to an academic qualification and will make you eligible to register as a social worker with regulatory bodies in Ireland and Internationally.

"I was very impressed with the programme and find it to be of very high quality... I think this is one of the stronger social work programmes I’ve come across. I was really impressed with the quality of the learning activities, feedback, programme design, and staff dedication”

Professor Tim Kelly, External Examiner, University of Dundee.

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» Provides students with a wide range of practice placements.

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Group and Individual Tutorials
Fieldwork Placement
14 week Fieldwork Placement and Practice Portfolio

Year 2 (60 credits)

Fieldwork Placement
14 week Fieldwork Placement and Practice Portfolio

Academic Curriculum
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14 week Fieldwork Placement and Practice Portfolio

Fieldwork placements are an integral part of the programme. Students are required to complete two fourteen week fieldwork placements, one of which will be outside of Cork. The course has a wide range of placements within both voluntary organisations and statutory agencies in Ireland and abroad.

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There is a selection process based on the following combined elements: certified social work related experience and initiative; knowledge of social work and motivation, commitment and suitability; academic performance and research capacity. To be eligible for interview, candidates must have at least 470 hours certified social work related practice experience on the day of their interview. See http://www.ucc.ie/en/msw/ for more information.

All students on this programme will require Garda clearance in order to attend student placements. Successful candidates will be required to comply with the Fitness to Practise Policy and meet the relevant Fitness to Practise standards in order to progress on the programme and be awarded the degree.
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Further information on the School can be found at: http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/

Further information on Campus Life at UCC, including accommodation, facilities and societies can be found at: http://www.ucc.ie/en/campuslife

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- Presents opportunities for practice research, including action research and community-based research.

The MSW programme is structured to provide students with comprehensive training in the core curriculum areas of Social Work, including its social, political and economic influences. The programme is designed to provide students with a critical and reflective understanding of the social contexts in which they work, and to prepare them for professional practice in an era of considerable social, political and economic change.

The programme is open to students with a 2.2 Honours BSocSc Degree (or its equivalent) or graduates, who have successfully completed an approved conversion programme, i.e. the Higher Diploma in Social Policy (or its equivalent). Applicants with a 3H can apply for the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies.

Applicants are required to submit a completion of their undergraduate degree, a personal statement, and a letter of reference. Applicants are also required to complete a selection process, which includes an interview. The selection process is based on the following combined elements:

- Certified social work related experience and initiative
- Knowledge of social work and accredited social work education
- Motivation, commitment and suitability
- Academic performance and research capacity

To be eligible for interview, candidates must have at least 470 hours of social work related practice experience on the day of their interview. See http://www.ucc.ie/en/msw/ for more information.

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