

Social Work FAQs

1. I don't really know much about social work. What is it?

Social work is recognized as a critical part of health and well-being for individuals, communities, and society. Social workers are people who care about people, who want to make things better, who want to work directly with individuals, families, and communities, and, who want their work to make a difference. We prepare you to become a licensed professional, equipped to work in direct practice with children or adults, groups, and organizations, and as an advocate for policies to advance the common good. Our graduates are committed to social justice and to helping people make positive changes in their lives.

The need for social workers is growing. Employment in social work is expected to grow faster than average for all occupations over the next decade. Health care social work, along with mental health and substance abuse social work are among the fastest growing areas, while opportunities to work with children, families and schools are also growing faster than average. With a bachelor's degree in social work, you can begin work upon graduation or enter the Master of Social Work (MSW) program as an "advanced standing" student and save a year of time and investment achieving your MSW. St. Thomas BSW students interested in clinical social work can apply through an [accelerated admissions](#) process to complete the school's nationally-ranked [Master of Social Work](#) approximately 500

fieldwork

hours of

partner violence shelters, nursing homes and assisted living, community-based nonprofits, and supportive, transitional, and emergency housing shelters, among many others.

3. Can I still study abroad if I major in social work?

Absolutely! There are two social work study abroad programs- Mexico and Botswana. Social Work students have also completed study abroad opportunities in Rome, South Africa, Ireland, Spain, France, Nepal, and many other countries. We believe that study abroad experiences can be an integral part of your time at St. Thomas and will work with you to find a way to integrate them into your program of study. Your social work advisor will help you plan so that you are able to study abroa