



Master of Social Work

Personal Statement Instructions

Your personal statement will be used to assess your ability to write at the graduate level by addressing the topics in a cohesive, integrated essay, as well as your readiness for graduate education. Your personal statement should fully inform the committee about your view of yourself as a quality candidate for professional social work education. Care should be taken in its preparation.

This narrative essay must be doubled-spaced, typewritten, a minimum of two (2) pages long and a maximum of three (3) pages long. Please answer the following prompts/questions:

1. Please share with us about your educational and professional background and how that has influenced your desire to pursue a Master's in Social Work (MSW) degree.
2. What are your short-term and long-term career goals? How will an MSW degree help you achieve those goals?
3. What personal and professional strengths do you believe will contribute to your success in the MSW program?
4. Please share any areas for growth you currently identify.
5. What experience have you had with oppressed populations (racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, persons with disabilities, religion, etc.)? How has that experience influenced you and your decision to pursue a Master's in Social Work?
6. Please discuss the number of hours a week you plan to devote to your graduate studies and how you plan to make time to complete the required internships. (Internships usually require between 20-25 hours per week).