

Proposal for a minor: Social Welfare Advocacy

Rationale: Some students come to social work late in their undergraduate careers and are unable to complete a social work major in a timely fashion but plan to go on to graduate school in social work. Other students are interested in social welfare and advocacy but have another major. For these students we would like to offer a substantive minor that will provide them with the knowledge and skills to engage in advocacy on social welfare issues. These students and others will then be able to demonstrate their interest in social welfare with the proposed minor. There are not many students who will elect this minor each year, but we would like to offer this minor in social welfare advocacy for those students who wish to complete a minor in this area and have it designated on their official IU transcripts.

The BSW Committee proposes that the School of Social Work offer a 15-credit Social Welfare Advocacy minor with the following requirements:

S100 Understanding Diversity in a Pluralistic Society

S141 Introduction to Social Work (includes attention to the advocacy roles that social workers play in influencing policy)

S251 Emergence of Social Services

S352 Social Service Delivery Systems (which now is taught more as a policy practice course with a focus on advocacy)

Any non-major 300-level social work class

Approval for minors is completed at the campus level; minors do not have to go to the Board of Trustees or Commission on Higher Education. The official approval for system-wide schools is obtained at the home campus for the School. For us, that would be the Indianapolis campus. Approvals would also need to be sought through both East and Bloomington for the minor to be offered at those two campuses. Upon approval from Faculty Senate, each campus may then submit the proposal to its campus-specific curriculum committee for campus-level approval.