



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

**College of Social Work**

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July 19, 2017

Dr. W. Randy Smith  
Vice Provost for Academic Programs  
203 Bricker Hall  
190 North Oval Mall  
Campus

Dear Vice Provost Smith:

I am writing on behalf of the College of Social Work to request review and approval of the Global Option (GO) in Social Work curriculum enhancement program. The proposal received approval from the College's Undergraduate Studies and International Programs Committees. The program follows the Office of International Affairs' global option framework.

In developing the GO Social Work program, we identified existing courses with significant international content, including Education Abroad Programs in India, Australia, and Nicaragua. Students who pursue the GO Social Work program will also complete their required 10 credit, 420 clock hour field practicum in international settings, either abroad or in central Ohio agencies that serve international clientele. Students would complete the GO program without increasing their time to degree and would gain international expertise and global competencies.

We are excited to be able to offer the Global Option to our undergraduate students and plan to continue to grow our curriculum in global issues and Education Abroad programs. Please contact me for any needed proposal clarifications.

Sincerely,

Tamara S. Davis, PhD, MSSW  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs



May 22, 2017

Support for Global Option in the College of Social Work:

The Global Option is a key component of Ohio State's strategy for institutional internationalization as designed by the International Affairs Committee, implementing the President's and Provost's Council on Strategic Internationalization objectives. One of the strategies to internationalize student learning experiences at The Ohio State University is to offer students the Global Option (GO), a curriculum enhancement program through which students are able to acquire documented international knowledge integrated into participating programs without adding time to graduation.

The College of Social Work International Programs Committee and Undergraduate Studies Committee has completed its design of a Global Option curriculum using the general framework endorsed by the Council of Deans and approved by the Council of Academic Affairs (October 2012). As you can see from their program's goal and competencies, it is encored in the international context of Social Work where social workers serve in organizations that provide relief, combat human rights violations, or promote indigenous land rights and fair trade. This program can ensure that Ohio States' Social Work students are culturally competent, practice effectively an understanding and appreciation of both the diversity that exists internationally and the global nature of social problems in today's world.

The proposal of College of Social Work meets three core criteria for the Global Option:

- The proposal follows the global option framework we have developed and can be viewed at <http://go.osu.edu/GlobalOption>.
- The proposal adopted and listed their desired global competencies.
- The proposal outlines a concrete plan to move forward by capitalizing on the College's existing programs and courses that already contain international learning and global experiences.

Specifically, the proposal submitted by the College of Social Work outlines learning outcomes for their Global Option guided by competencies specified by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accreditation standards. More over, while all Social Work students must complete a 10 credit, 420 clock hour field placement, Global Option students are required to complete this field placement either abroad or in a local agency that works with international populations.

The Office of International Affairs with its constituent units and Area Studies Centers, are committed to continuing their support of the College's efforts to internationalize students' learning experiences. The Office of International Affairs' Dr. Esther E. Gottlieb, who has been working to implement the Global Option with other colleges, will assist with the College's continuing work on its global option. We fully endorse the GO Social Work curriculum and remain ready to collaborate with implementation consistent with the goals of the President's and Provost's Council on Strategic Internationalization.

Sincerely,

Gifty Ako-Adounvo, Ph.D.  
Assistant Vice Provost for Global Strategies and International Affairs  
Senior International Officer, The Ohio State University

CC: Esther E. Gottlieb, Ph.D.  
Senior Advisor for International Affairs



## Global Option in Social Work (GO Social Work)

### Background and Rationale

The baccalaureate degree in Social Work is an ideal candidate to expose students to structured international programming. Because of increasing diversity brought about by globalization, it is likely that social workers will work with people of different cultures and countries regardless of where they live. Social workers in the United States are frequently called upon to deal with problems that have international dimensions and thus the study of international social work and social welfare is becoming an imperative. Many social problems will be resolved only by coordinated global efforts. Social workers at the local level face the realities of people who are displaced as refugees or migrate for economic benefit. At the national level, social work promotes global economic and social justice. Internationally, social workers serve in organizations that provide relief, combat human rights violations, or promote indigenous land rights and fair trade. Social work students must develop an understanding and appreciation of both the diversity that exists internationally and the global nature of social problems in order to conduct culturally competent, effective practice in today's world.

The Global Option was developed jointly by the *College's International Programs Committee* and the *Undergraduate Studies Committee*. It is a curriculum enhancement program through which social work students will combine international components with their major in order to strengthen their global perspective and gain global skills in order to perform at a higher level of cultural awareness. It is designed in a manner that is accessible and affordable and thus will not add time to graduation as students selectively use required credit hours in creating their Global Option program. GO Social Work students are also exposed to the global content that is infused throughout the traditional undergraduate curriculum.

### Program Goal and Competencies

Our goal is to promote global citizenship and professional action among our social work students. We will achieve this through coursework, research, advocacy, and service to vulnerable groups in other parts of the world, as well as immigrants and refugees in our own Ohio communities. Learning outcomes for the Global Option are guided by competencies specified by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accreditation standards. Upon successful completion of the Global Option, students are expected to demonstrate the following competencies from a global perspective:

#### 1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

- Make ethical decisions amid cultural and national differences by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, and as applicable, of the International Federation of Social Workers/International Association of Schools of Social Work Ethics in Social Work, Statement of Principles

## **2. Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice**

- Apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences
- Demonstrate an understanding of the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and recognize the extent to which a culture's structure and values may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create privilege and power
- Apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies

## **3. Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic and Environmental Justice**

- Apply understanding of social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights
- Engage in practices that advance social, economic and environmental justice

## **4. Engage in Policy Practice**

- Identify social policy that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services
- Assess how social and economic policies impact the delivery of and access to social services
- Apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice

### **Framework and Components for GO Social Work**

Students participating in the GO Social Work program will plan an individual program comprised of courses, research, international experiences, and reflection in order to constitute an achievement beyond the standard requirements for the social work degree.

In order to commit to the Global Option goal of not adding time to graduation, program components are structured in a manner that will allow completion during the two years that constitute the professional social work program, as over 90% of social work majors are internal and external transfer students who enter the major in the junior year. The GO Social Work programming is thus completed in place of, or as part of, the 14-credit hours of social work electives required in the major.

In addition, Global Option students will complete the 10-credit hour Field Placement required of all social work students either in an agency abroad or in a domestic organization that provides international services.

## GO Social Work Curricular Requirements

### Option A

<p><b>Global Culture Learning Experience</b></p>	<p><b>Social Work 5004: International Social Work</b> (3 credits, no prerequisite):          The globalization of social issues requires that social work practitioners understand global problems and the nature of transnational solutions. This course examines a variety of social issues through a multi-cultural lens in order to fully appreciate the role of culturally diverse and country-specific responses to social problems. Issues discussed in this course include: human trafficking, economic inequalities, health care, child welfare, aging, homelessness, mental illness, and human rights. Social work services for each of these issues will be examined from a global perspective that incorporates the concept of ethno-relativism and helps students to understand how different countries and cultures will define and address these issues.</p>
<p><b>Education Abroad</b></p>	<p><b>Education Abroad</b> (minimum of 3 credits):          Students may select any Education Abroad offered by the College of Social Work, as well as Social Work Education Abroad courses offered by other colleges and universities.</p> <p>Other Education Abroad courses offered through the OSU Office of International Affairs are acceptable under the following conditions: content is relevant to social work to include social, economic, political, and cultural issues; and social justice and empowerment of marginalized groups.</p> <p>Students must complete a petition to request an Education Abroad not offered by the College of Social Work.</p>
<p><b>Field Placement Experience with International Focus</b></p>	<p><b>Social Work 4189: Field Placement Experience with International Focus</b> (10 credits, 420 clock hours):          As the signature pedagogy of social work, field education is critical to the education and development of skilled professional social workers. Students are provided active opportunities to engage in generalist social work practice and participate in both direct and indirect service.</p> <p>Students who enroll in the Global Option will engage in a field placement abroad or in a domestic organization that provides international social services, including social services with immigrants and refugees.</p>
<p><b>Human Rights Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Human Rights Activities with International Focus</b> (0 credits, 16 clock hours):          Global Option students will complete 16 clock hours of human rights activities during their senior year in order to engage in advocacy on a macro level or volunteering on a more individual level. These activities must be completed outside of the field placement agency and not related to the day-to-day activities of the student's field placement. It is the student's responsibility to identify activities in which to participate. Human Rights Activities must be approved by the Office of Field Education.</p>

### Option B

<p><b>Global Culture Learning Experience</b></p>	<p><b>Social Work 5004: International Social Work</b> (3 credits, no prerequisite): The globalization of social issues requires that social work practitioners understand global problems and the nature of transnational solutions. This course examines a variety of social issues through a multi-cultural lens in order to fully appreciate the role of culturally diverse and country-specific responses to social problems. Issues discussed in this course include: human trafficking, economic inequalities, health care, child welfare, aging, homelessness, mental illness, and human rights. Social work services for each of these issues will be examined from a global perspective that incorporates the concept of ethno-relativism and helps students to understand how different countries and cultures will define and address these issues.</p>
<p><b>International Research</b></p>	<p><b>Social Work 4999 or 4999H Thesis with International Focus</b> (10 credits): Students will structure, design and implement a thesis project with international focus under the supervision of a College of Social Work faculty thesis advisor. The thesis topic will be approved by the faculty thesis advisor.</p> <p>Students will apply to the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum and participate if accepted.</p> <p>Students will participate in the College of Social Work's Outstanding Thesis Competition.</p>
<p><b>Field Placement Experience with International Focus</b></p>	<p><b>Social Work 4189: Field Placement Experience with International Focus</b> (10 credits, 420 clock hours): As the signature pedagogy of social work, field education is critical to the education and development of skilled professional social workers. Students are provided active opportunities to engage in generalist social work practice and participate in both direct and indirect service.</p> <p>Students who enroll in the Global Option will engage in a field placement abroad or in a domestic organization that provides international social services, including social services with immigrants and refugees.</p>
<p><b>Human Rights Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Human Rights Activities with International Focus</b> (0 credits, 16 clock hours): Global Option students will complete 16 clock hours of human rights activities during their senior year in order to engage in advocacy on a macro level or volunteering on a more individual level. These activities must be completed outside of the field placement agency and not related to the day-to-day activities of the student's field placement. It is the student's responsibility to identify activities in which to participate. Human Rights Activities must be approved by the Office of Field Education.</p>

**Option C**

<p><b>Global Culture Learning Experiences</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Social Work 5004: International Social Work</b> (3 credits, no prerequisite): The globalization of social issues requires that social work practitioners understand global problems and the nature of transnational solutions. This course examines a variety of social issues through a multi-cultural lens in order to fully appreciate the role of culturally diverse and country-specific responses to social problems. Issues discussed in this course include: human trafficking, economic inequalities, health care, child welfare, aging, homelessness, mental illness, and human rights. Social work services for each of these issues will be examined from a global perspective that incorporates the concept of ethno-relativism and helps students to understand how different countries and cultures will define and address these issues.</li>   <li>2. <b>Social Work 4193 Individual Study with International Focus</b> (3 credits): Students will structure, design and implement a one-semester course of study with an international focus under the supervision of a College of Social Work instructor. The Undergraduate Studies Director must approve the Individual Study plan.</li>   <li>3. <b>Global Culture/World Language Coursework</b> (minimum of 6 credits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3000-level and above internationally-focused courses in social work or other relevant discipline. Course content must support/be related to the student’s Social Work 4193 Individual Study and approved by the Undergraduate Program Office.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>-OR-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Language courses 1101 and 1102 or</li> <li>• World Language EM credit for 1101 and 1102 or</li> <li>• World Language EM credit for 1101 and completion of World Language course 1102</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Field Placement Experience with International Focus</b></p>	<p><b>Social Work 4189: Field Placement Experience with International Focus</b> (10 credits, 420 clock hours):</p> <p>As the signature pedagogy of social work, field education is critical to the education and development of skilled professional social workers. Students are provided active opportunities to engage in generalist social work practice and participate in both direct and indirect service.</p> <p>Students who enroll in the Global Option will engage in a field placement abroad or in a domestic organization that provides international social services, including social services with immigrants and refugees.</p>
<p><b>Human Rights Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Human Rights Activities with International Focus</b> (0 credits, 16 clock hours):</p> <p>Global Option students will complete 16 clock hours of human rights activities during their senior year in order to engage in advocacy on a macro level or volunteering on a more individual level. These activities must be completed outside of the field placement agency and not related to the day-to-day activities of the student’s field placement. It is the student’s responsibility to identify activities in which to participate. Human Rights Activities must be approved by the Office of Field Education.</p>

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### **Additional Program Requirements**

1. Upon selection into the Global Option program, students complete a pre-test on Global Citizenship and Cultural Intelligence. At graduation, students will complete a post-test in order to assist the College in understanding the extent to which students develop academically and personally during their participation in the program.
2. During the semester of graduation, Global Option students must present a poster to the College of Social Work community demonstrating evidence of their achievements and their attainment of the global competencies.
3. Students must earn a C or higher for all graded components, and a Satisfactory for all S/U components.
4. Students must complete all degree requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Social Work and must remain in good academic standing in the College in order to continue in the GO Social Work and receive transcript designation.
5. Students may abandon the GO Social Work without penalty and complete the traditional social work degree path.

### **Procedures and Oversight**

The GO Social Work will be managed by the Undergraduate Program Office and the International Programs Director. Responsibilities include:

1. Increasing awareness of the program;
2. Communicating program goals and requirements to students;
3. Advising students and maintaining records of participation;
4. Maintaining an assessment plan, including student surveys, a pre and post-test, and the Field Placement Learning Agreement & Evaluation;
5. Working in collaboration with the Field Education Office to ensure GO Social Work students obtain a field placement abroad or in a domestic organization that provides international social services, including social services with immigrants and refugees;
6. Working in collaboration with the Development Office to seek funding to support student participation in education abroad and international field placements;
7. Working in collaboration with faculty and administration to identify and develop additional international experiences and courses; and
8. Working in collaboration with the Office of International Affairs.



