

So what makes Grove City's social work program distinct?

This program has been shaped from the ground up in theological principles related to biblical justice, human dignity, and human development. Every course has been designed to support the overarching goal of facilitating multidimensional growth—both in students and those whom they'll eventually serve—toward God and other people.

We believe that the goals and characteristics of a social work program provide a natural extension of the tenets and aims of our institutional mission. Noting the profession's core values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of each person, the importance of human relationships, integrity, competence, human rights, and scientific inquiry, the aims of our program specifically affirm each of these tenets. The orientation of our program is toward service and particularly service—as the core values suggest—to those in greatest need and at greatest risk for the detrimental effects of social injustice. Our adherence to providing “compassionate” service references our strong belief in human relationality, our belief that each individual possesses a unique and important vantage point and story, our belief that human dignity necessitates human rights, and finally, insistence upon practice characterized by scientific knowledge and ethical integrity.

I noticed that you're accredited by a national organization. What does that mean and why does that matter?

An accredited BSW degree facilitates an *advanced standing* position in MSW programs, eliminating between one semester and one year of graduate study. The MSW degree has been highly popular across the nation for some time as it permits practice in every practice field outside of academia.

But beyond that, it creates a uniform national standard that forces programs to carefully examine their curriculum and their outcomes, resulting in continual modifications and improvements.

Are field placements required in this major?

Yes! Every student does a 400-hour field placement in an agency during their senior year. This provides the hands-on experience that is the hallmark of social work education. And many students find jobs or increase their network through these relationships.