

## **Advanced Standing Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How many credit hours are required for the Advanced Standing Program?**

The Advanced Standing program is 39 credit hours.

### **What courses are specific to the Advanced Standing (AS) Program?**

The Advanced Standing program requires students complete a bridging curriculum during the summer. The bridging curriculum includes Advanced Standing Seminar I (3 credit hours), Social Work and Theology (3 credit hours), and Advanced Standing Seminar II (3 credit hours) for a total of 9 semester hours.

### **When do the classes meet?**

AS Seminar I is offered via correspondence with the Seminar professor. The AS Seminar I professor sends an assessment to determine the competency areas (values and ethics, diversity, social and economic justice, at-risk populations, research, human behavior and the social environment, social welfare policy and services, leadership and social change) in which the student would like to gain more knowledge. This assessment guides the reading and writing for the seminar. All writing needs to conform to APA style (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). This seminar begins in late May and goes through the end of June.

The two additional courses for the bridging curriculum (Social Work and Theology; AS Seminar II) meet on campus beginning after **July 4<sup>th</sup> through the first week in August**. These courses typically have 10-12 on campus class sessions in 3-4 hour blocks (i.e. 9a.m.-1p.m.). The course professors will provide students specific times and dates when they will need to be on campus.

### **Are there any additional requirements for the Advanced Standing program?**

At the end of Seminar I the students will be required to complete a Comprehensive Examination. This is typically due in early July. The comprehensive exam is based on reading the book Cider House Rules and covers each of the program competency areas (values and ethics, diversity, social and economic justice, at-risk populations, research, human behavior and the social environment, social welfare policy and services, leadership and social change). The exam requires APA style writing (6<sup>th</sup> ed) including scholarly sources for each competency area.

### **What happens after I complete the summer bridging curriculum?**

Student progress is evaluated at the end of the Advanced Standing bridging curriculum before movement into the Concentration curriculum? Achievement of a 3.0 GPA is required for advancement to the Concentration.

**What will the remainder of my program consist of?**

The program course requirements include 30 additional credit hours after the summer bridging program which includes 9 hours of electives. The student is also required to complete 540 hours of field placement over the course of the school year.

**When do these classes meet?**

The required concentration year courses meet on campus on Monday and Wednesdays. Class offerings are primarily during the hours of 11a.m. and 9p.m. requiring students to be available during these hours to be in the classroom. Some elective course options may be scheduled on other days.

**What else do I need to know about field placement?**

You will meet with the Field Director once your deposit for the program is received. The field placement is 18-20 hours per week on the days that the students are not in class. It is strongly suggested that student do not work full-time during their MSW program as the course work and field placement are time and task intensive.

**Can I use my current job as a field placement?**

No. Field placement options need to be discussed with the Field Director. We are always adding new field sites in different areas of the state so the director will discuss all options with you.

**When will I graduate from the program?**

If you complete the summer bridging curriculum successfully and move into the Fall and Spring semesters of the next school year you should graduate in May of that school year (i.e. enter in May and graduate the following May).