For Prospective Students

What is Social Work?

Social work is a profession working for social change and social justice at the level of individuals, families, communities and institutions through various social science knowledge bases, social intervention methods, humanitarian values, professional ethics and hands on skills. The International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) and the International Association Schools of Social Work (IASSW) of which India is also a member defines social work in the following manner:

“Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance well-being” (IFSW & IASSW 2014).

BSW Programme

Social workers who hold BSW degrees have proficiency in generalist practice. They utilize social science knowledge, professional ethics, and multiple skills to work in the different areas of social work intervention such as with individuals and families; with women’s/ youth’s/ children’s groups; and also with community and institutions of governance. Our BSW graduates work as case managers, group facilitators/ workers, adult educator/ trainers, community organisers, social entrepreneurs and social activists with leading national/ international non-profit organisations and government organisations.

MSW Programme

Social workers who hold MSW degrees have expertise in both generic and specialized areas such as criminology and corrections, social policy analysis, rural development, etc. They possess mastery of the social science theories and applied aspects. Additionally, these social work post graduates also are eligible to teach social work in universities and colleges, conduct research, and develop new socio-economic and development programs. The University Grants Commission (UGC) conducts national eligibility test for lectureship and junior research fellowship in the social work.

Community of Social Workers

Though a formal Council of Social Work Education does not exist in India, students completing their BSW and MSW programmes are encouraged to be part of the social work fraternity by registering their names with the Bombay Association of Trained Social Workers (BATSW) or/ and with any of the national level associations such as the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) or with the Indian Society of Professional Social Work (ISPSW).

For further details, please contact the recruitment and admissions coordination committee of the college