SOCIAL WORK

School of Health and Human Sciences

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www.uncg.edu/swk

Melissa Floyd-Pickard, Chair of Department
Jeffrey Shears, Director of Graduate Study

Mission of the Department of Social Work

The mission of the UNC Greensboro BSW Program is to prepare culturally competent, ethical social workers who embody the core social work values as described in the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics. These core values include; service, social justice, the dignity and worth of the person, the importance of human relationship, integrity, competence, human rights, and scientific inquiry. Human rights and social justice are key components of what social workers do, and an important part of our mission is for students to apply these values and ethics in their social work practice. We prepare students to engage with others at the intersection of culture, race, gender, and class, to promote healthy functioning for individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Our goal is the transformation of personal history into professional identity through mentoring, teaching, research, and our signature pedagogy – field education. Faculty promote social, economic, and environmental justice through research, engaged scholarship, and collaboration with social services agencies. Learning takes place within an intentional, collaborative community that respects and embraces diversity and promotes inclusion.

Department Goals

1. Prepare graduate and undergraduate students to become competent, engaged social workers who demonstrate the knowledge, ethics, values, and skills of the profession.
2. Prepare graduates to work effectively with diverse and marginalized people.
3. Prepare students to facilitate inclusion at all systems levels—individual, family, group, organization, community, and policy.
4. Create a learning community that respects diversity and encourages the exploration of difference.
5. Increase engagement with social service agencies and other community institutions to promote social change.
6. Conduct change-oriented research to promote social and economic justice.

Mission of the Bachelor of Social Work Program

Our mission is to prepare competent, ethical social workers who will become the backbone of the social services delivery system in the Piedmont Triad and beyond. We prepare students to engage with others at the intersection of person and environment, race, gender, and class, in order to promote healthy functioning for individuals, families, groups, and communities. Our goal is the transformation of personal history into professional identity through mentoring, teaching, our signature pedagogy—field education, research, and engaged scholarship. Learning takes place within an intentional, collaborative community that respects and embraces diversity and promotes inclusion.

The Joint Master of Social Work

The Joint Master of Social Work (MSW) program represents the efforts of faculty at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NCA&TSU) and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNC Greensboro). This is a single academic program with participation in instruction by faculty from each department. Instruction is conducted on the campuses of both universities. The program is accredited by The Council on Social Work Education and the curriculum has been designed by the joint faculty to provide students with a multicultural clinical social work education. The model for the curriculum is based on CSWE social work competencies and contemporary, state-of-the-art theory and practice methods. The curriculum is organized by generalist year, specialization year, and field instruction. The primary purpose of the MSW program is to prepare students for multicultural clinical social work practice.

Each MSW student completes 1008 hours of internships in community agencies. A 42-credit hour Advanced Standing option is available for highly qualified students who have graduated from a CSWE-accredited BSW Program; these students complete a 672-hour advanced internship.

Gerontology

The mission of the UNC Greensboro Gerontology Program is to teach, apply, and create gerontological knowledge through collaborative relationships with academic disciplines, community organizations, and businesses to enrich the lives of older adults and their families. Graduates are prepared to be leaders in the profession and to serve older adults locally and nationally through the health, business, non-profit, and academic sectors.

Three goals reflect the mission of the Gerontology program:

1. Provide a transdisciplinary curriculum that gives new and seasoned professionals the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful career working with older adults.
2. Facilitate and support opportunities for students to participate in innovative coursework that further their academic and professional goals in the field of gerontology.
3. Provide professional training and experiences in gerontology in order to enhance understanding of and professional practice using research and theories on aging.

Program Administration

The Gerontology Program is proudly housed in the Department of Social Work in the School of Health and Human Sciences.

212 Ferguson Building
www.uncg.edu/gro

About

The goal of the Gerontology Program is to provide opportunities for learning and practice that create competent and capable gerontologists who meet the needs of the aging population. Students are provided with a scientific, broad and integrated view of aging through collaborative relationships with academic disciplines, community organizations, and businesses in order to approach issues of aging from a truly biopsychosocial perspective. The undergraduate and graduate programs in Gerontology prepare students for careers in agencies and organizations serving older adults and their families.
The UNC Greensboro Gerontology Program offers an Undergraduate Minor in Gerontology, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Gerontology, and a Master of Science in Gerontology.

**Affiliated Faculty**

**Dr. Rebecca G. Adams**, Gerontology Undergraduate Coordinator, Professor  
**Dr. Elise K Eifert**, Gerontology Graduate Coordinator, Assistant Professor

**Undergraduate**

Rebecca Adams, Gerontology Undergraduate Coordinator  
336-256-1020

The Gerontology Program offers an undergraduate minor in Gerontology that requires 15 credit hours to complete, including a 3 credit required course, GRO 201, and 12 credits of electives outside the student's major.

Undergraduate students who plan to undertake graduate study at UNC Greensboro, and who need no more than 12 credits of work to fulfill all requirements for the bachelor's degree, may enroll in the Graduate School. See the Dual Registration in the University Catalog.

Please see the University Catalog for gerontology graduate programs.

**Graduate**

Elise Eifert, Gerontology Graduate Coordinator  
336-256-1099

A Post-Baccalaureate Certificate and a Master of Science degree in Gerontology are offered through the Gerontology Program. The graduate programs are fully online and tailored to working, adult learners. Programs are flexible and practitioner oriented with a focus on authentic learning and developing practical knowledge and skills for the job market.

The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Gerontology curriculum provides students enrolled at UNC Greensboro in another degree earning program with the opportunity to link their primary discipline with Gerontology. The P.B.C. requires a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework. Visit the P.B.C. program page at https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-pbc/ for information about applying and admission and the certificate requirements.

The Master of Science in Gerontology curriculum provides the professional foundation necessary to prepare students for practice as a Gerontologist. Courses are designed to provide students with opportunities to master core competencies in the Gerontology discipline according to the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education. The M.S. requires a minimum of 30 credit hours of coursework. Visit the M.S. program page at https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-ms/ for information about applying and admission and the degree requirements.

**Professor**

Rebecca G. Adams  
Tanya M. Coakley  
Melissa Raymelle Floyd-Pickard  
Elizabeth W. Lindsey  
Kelly Jay Poole  
John C. Rife

**Associate Professor**

Mathieu Despard  
Danielle Cori Swick  
Tyreasa Washington

**Academic Professional Associate Professor**

Fran Pearson  
Daniel Thomas Rhodes

**Assistant Professor**

Yarneccia Danielle Dyson  
Meredith Christine Foster Powers

**Academic Professional Assistant Professor**

Jennifer Gale Cobb  
Elise K Eifert  
Alicia B. Kaplan  
Beth Webb

G Graduate-level faculty

- Gerontology, M.S. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/gerontology-ms)
- Social Work, M.S.W., offered jointly with North Carolina A&T State University (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/social-work-msw)
- Social Work, Ph.D., offered jointly with North Carolina A&T State University (https://catalog.uncg.edu/health-human-sciences/social-work/social-work-phd)