Thinking about Majoring in Social Work?
Ms. Janice Koppenhaver, SW Academic Advisor
Dr. Rachel Wright, BSW Program Director
What is Social Work?

- A growing and dynamic field!
- Helps people reach their potential—overcoming personal and environmental obstacles through advocacy, direct practice, and research
- Is a professional degree that you can work with people immediately after graduation
- Prepares you for practice in a variety of health and human services

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2020 median pay</th>
<th>$51,760 per year</th>
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<td>Number of jobs, 2020</td>
<td>715,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job outlook, 2020-30</td>
<td>12% (faster than average)</td>
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From the Council on Social Work Education....

Social workers share a commitment to

- promoting social welfare,
- helping people of all backgrounds overcome their unique challenges,
- advocating for social and economic justice for all members of the community, and
- embodying a professional Code of Ethics
What do social workers do?

- [https://careers.appstate.edu/social-work](https://careers.appstate.edu/social-work)

**Social Work**

*What Can I Do In My Major?*

**Overview**

The National Association of Social Workers defines social workers as “people who care about people, who want to make things better, who want to relieve suffering, who want their work to make a difference.” This is a growing and dynamic field, and the U.S. Department of Labor projects faster than average employment growth.
What courses are needed for a social work major?

- **Program of Study**
- In addition to Gen Ed., Social Work majors take 4 levels of classes:
  - Cognate courses (non-SW courses)
  - “Foundation” level courses
  - “Professional Sequence” level courses
  - Field placement (internship) and accompanying seminar
Socialwork.appstate.edu

“Undergraduate” Tab

**BSW Student Handbook**
BSW Academic Standards

Maintain 2.5 overall GPA and 2.5 Social Work GPA

Grades in required cognates and all SW courses ("C" or higher)

Can only repeat 2 SW courses during the major

Can only repeat any specific SW course once
Potentially Earn your BSW and MSW in About 5 years!

BSW

ADVANCED STANDING (MSW)

* LCSW- Licensed Clinical Social Worker--REQUIRES the MSW

Social Workers
- Feed the Hungry
- Shelter the Homeless
- Protect the Children
- Advocate for the Infirn
- Counsel the Distressed
- Empower the Victims
- Research Best Practices
- Inform Government
- Protect the Vulnerable
- Challenge Discrimination
What can I expect as a student?

• Class Discussions...often on tough topics
• Writing Papers
• Service Learning
• Making Solo Presentations
• Making Group Presentations
• Group Projects...
• More Group Projects!
• Internship in Final Semester
• And...Fun!
Potential Field (internship) placements

- Public school systems
- The health department
- Guardian ad Litem
- The Children’s Council
- DSS
- Public libraries
- Youth programs
- Advocacy organizations
- And many more!
Some Great Aspects of Our BSW…

* Honors Program

* Social Work Faculty Mentors

* SASW Opportunities (student club)
Advising

This wasn’t the course I was supposed to take???

What do I need to take next semester???

How do I choose a section?
What’s a CRN?
Does the BIO course I took as a Freshman count?

Dedicated SW Academic Advisor.
Ms. Koppenhaver, you’re my hero!!
Our BSWs and MSWs want to change the world...AND THEY DO!

Come join us at Appalachian! Be a Mountaineer Social Worker!