

## **SOCIAL WORK DIPLOMA – updated February 2012**

This Academic Planning Guide highlights only major points regarding admission and transfer. You are advised to read the University and RDC calendars, and the Alberta Transfer Guide for other necessary information. Some of the courses listed in this guide have prerequisites. Please refer to the Course Description section of the RDC calendar for further information. (3) or (6) noted after a course indicates the number of transfer credits awarded by the University of Alberta.

### **Red Deer College Diploma 2012-2013 Program Content**

--Footnotes and Important Information available on page 2--

Courses in **BOLD** are available to students starting the Social Work Program as an Open Studies student

<b>YEAR 1 FALL TERM</b>		<b>YEAR 1 WINTER TERM</b>	
<b>English or Communication Option<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>English or Communication Option<sup>1</sup></b>	
<b>PSYC 260</b>	<b>Basic Psychological Processes</b>	<b>PSYC 261</b>	<b>Social and Individual Behaviour</b>
SOWK 201	Introduction to Social Works Methods I	SOWK 202	Introduction to Social Works Methods II
SOWK 204	Social Work Ethics in Practice	SOWK 210	Social Work Practice with Groups
SOWK 207	Social Services History, Function & Structure	SOCI 260*	Sociological Concepts and Perspectives
<i>Field Work taken either Fall/Winter or Winter/Spring</i>		or	<b>SOCI 261<sup>4</sup></b>
SOWK 208	Field Work I <sup>2</sup> (or complete in Winter term)	<i>If SOWK 208 taken in the Fall must take SOWK 209</i>	
or	<b>SOCI 260<sup>4</sup></b>	SOWK 208*	Field Work I <sup>2</sup>
<b>Sociological Concepts and Perspectives</b>		or	SOWK 209
		Field Work II <sup>2</sup> (or complete in Spring term)	

<b>YEAR 1 SPRING TERM</b>	
SOWK 209*	Field Work II <sup>2</sup> (If not previously taken)

<b>YEAR 2 FALL TERM</b>		<b>YEAR 2 WINTER TERM</b>	
SOWK 301	Social Work Practice with Indiv and Fam	SOWK 304	Social Work Practice with Communities
SOWK 306	Social Work Administration	SOWK 307	Social Policy
SOWK 312	Social Problems and Issues in Social Work	SOWK 313	Social Work in Health Care Settings
<b>Option (3 credits)<sup>3</sup></b>		SOCI 261*	Social Institutions and Process <sup>4</sup>
<b>Option (3 credits)<sup>3</sup></b>		<b>Option (3 credits)<sup>3</sup></b>	
<i>Field Work taken either Fall/Winter or Winter/Spring</i>		<i>If SOWK 308 taken in the Fall must take SOWK 309</i>	
SOWK 308	Field Work III <sup>2</sup> (or complete in Winter term)	SOWK 308*	Field Work III <sup>2</sup>
or	<b>SOCI 261<sup>4*</sup></b>	or	SOWK 309
<b>Social Institutions and Process</b>		Field Work IV <sup>2</sup> (or complete in Spring term)	

<b>YEAR 2 SPRING TERM</b>	
SOWK 309 <sup>2</sup>	Field Work IV <sup>2</sup> (If not previously taken)

\*if not previously taken

**If you are interested in transfer to a university/post-diploma program, please see an Academic Advisor for further information.**

## FOOTNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Successful completion of 6 credits from the following courses will satisfy the English option(s): COMM 150, and any 200 level COMM course (Comm. 250 recommended); or ENGL 219 and COMM 271; or ENGL 219 and ENGL 220. University bound students are advised to complete ENGL courses. Please note that some courses have prerequisite requirements.

<sup>2</sup> Following individual student program planning, students have the option to complete Field Placement in Year 1 and/or Year 2 during the Winter and Spring terms. Field placements must be consecutive terms (either Fall-Winter OR Winter-Spring) **Students wishing to apply to the U of C for the Bachelor of Social Work in the fall semester after graduation are advised to NOT take the field work option Winter/Spring in year two.**

<sup>3</sup> One of your three options must include one of **PSYC 353, PSYC 355 or PSYC 357**. This course may be taken in either the fall or winter term in second year. Options may not include high school equivalency courses. If you plan to transfer to a university choose courses that are transferable on a course by course basis (refer to the Alberta Transfer Guide – [www.acat.gov.ab.ca](http://www.acat.gov.ab.ca)), and Senior level courses are strongly recommended but not required. Relevant areas of study may include Anthropology (ANTH), Economics (ECON), Geography(GEOG), History (HIST), Languages (FREN/SPAN), Philosophy (PHI), Psychology (PSYC), Political Science (POLI), Statistics (STAT), etc.

<sup>4</sup> Sociology 260 and 261 to be completed depending on the choice of field placement timing and timetable constraints.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIAL WORK DIPLOMA**

- All 60 credits must be completed before the diploma will be awarded
- The Social Work Diploma can be used to continue on in a Bachelor of Social Work
- ENGL 30-1 or 30-2 can be used for admission, however, ENGL 30-1 is required for students looking to continue on in a Degree program
- For students interested in continuing on in the degree program, a total of 8 university transferable courses must be completed
- Field placement can be sequenced in either the Fall/Winter or Winter/Spring semesters
- Students in Open Studies can complete some of the required components of the diploma prior to applying

### **For students interested in the Application Process:**

1. For students considering applying to the Social Work Diploma program here at Red Deer College please be sure to contact the department early regarding the required 100 volunteer/work hours and applicable positions with Human Services agencies. Do not wait until the summer before admission to complete your hours. Confirm with the Social Work department that the volunteer position is an appropriate one. For more information, please contact **Pat Couture** at:  
Phone: 403.342.3304  
E-Mail: [patricia.couture@rdc.ab.ca](mailto:patricia.couture@rdc.ab.ca)
2. The admissions package to the Social Work program has numerous components and students are encouraged by the department to send required documentation into the college as they complete them (i.e. do not wait to complete all components of the package before sending it in-the department wants to know that you are interested in the program.) It can't be emphasized enough that the department would like you to send documentation in as you complete it.
3. There is no official deadline for package submission, but the sooner students submit the required documentation, the sooner they will be interviewed and thus advised as to their admissibility.

## TRANSFER FEATURES

The Red Deer College Social Work Diploma is directly transferable to the University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work (Post-Diploma programs in Calgary and Edmonton), and the U of C BSW Learning Circles Program offered at different sites including Red Deer College. In addition, the Diploma is also transferable to Thompson Rivers University (located in Kamloops).

The diploma may also be transferable to the University of Victoria and the University of Regina. Students interested in these out of province programs may be required to complete university transfer courses extra to their diploma in order to qualify. Please contact the university directly and well in advance of pursuing transfer to that institution-RDC does not have a formal agreement with any of these institutions.

### **University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work Degree**

The University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work offers the Bachelor of Social Work degree at different locations throughout the province. These locations include Calgary and Edmonton (main campus sites) and other various sites through the Learning Circles Division. The Faculty also offers the Learning Circle Curriculum "Virtually" on the Web. Please contact the U of C directly for more information regarding this delivery method. Students must present ELA 30-1 or equivalent for admission to the university (all sites). Students are strongly encouraged to contact the University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work for further information regarding any of their programs and program regulations. Application Deadline: APRIL 1, with transcripts to follow no later than JUNE 30. This is a strict deadline, send transcripts as soon as they are available to be sent.

### **BSW LEARNING CIRCLES**

There are two routes within the Learning Circles program:

- **Learning Circles Post-Diploma**
- **Learning Circles University Transfer Route**

#### **Learning Circles Post-Diploma**

Students who will have completed a Social Work Diploma at an approved Community College may apply for admission to the Learning Circles Post-Diploma route. Such applicants must also meet basic University admission requirements.

Applicants to the Learning Circles Post-Diploma route will receive credit for 20 half-course equivalents from their Diploma program. Of these 20 half-course equivalents, 10 must be Social Work courses, 8 **must** be university transferable non-Social Work courses and 2 may be either Social Work or non-Social Work courses. Degree requirements must be completed within five years from the date of initial registration in the program. Students must present a minimum GPA of 2.3 and no more than two half-course equivalent D or D+ grades on courses transferred for credit for this program.

The program at the Red Deer College is offered every second weekend (Friday 6:00pm-9:00pm and all day Saturday 9:00-4:00). The practicum component of the program occurs after the two years are finished; it will take approximately 2 1/2 years to complete the degree. Theme and Integrated Study courses are offered in fall and winter terms, and block Social Work option courses during the Spring/Summer term. Theme courses are classroom taught. The Integrated Study courses are independent study courses with an instructor as a resource person.

**Admission GPA** will be calculated using the cumulative Social Work diploma GPA. If there are additional university transfer courses completed after the diploma, the GPA will include the additional courses and the cumulative Social Work diploma GPA. There are approximately 10-15 students accepted into the Learning Circles Red Deer site per year. Usually the program receives between 20 and 30 applications and it tends to be one of the most competitive sites for admission. The minimum GPA is 2.3, competitively it is usually around

3.0. The Learning Circles post-diploma program is available in Red Deer, as well as various other sites in Alberta. Please contact the Learning Circles Department at the U of C for further information.

### **Learning Circles University Transfer Route**

The Learning Circles University Transfer route admits students at the third year level. Therefore, by the end of the Winter Term preceding the Fall Term for which entry is sought, applicants will have completed a minimum 18 (of the 20) non-Social Work half-course equivalents. Admission Grade Point Average is calculated on the last ten half-course equivalents completed.

### **BSW UNIVERSITY TRANSFER (Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge)**

Students must complete a minimum of 20 university transferable courses for admission to the Calgary or Edmonton campus which include:

- Minimum of 19 university (or transferable) half-course equivalents
- SOWK 201 or its equivalent (may be taken Spr/Sum term with UofC)

Admission Grade Point Average is calculated on the last ten half-course equivalents completed.

### **BSW POST-DIPLOMA (Calgary, Edmonton)**

Students with a social work diploma from an Alberta college program that has an agreement with the Faculty of Social Work and have completed a minimum of 8 university transferable half courses, receive credit for two full years of a University degree. Students must have completed a total of 20 Half-Course Equivalents (HCE). Of the 20 HCE, 10 are Social Work Courses, 8 are university transferable non-social work courses, and the remaining 2 courses can be either SOWK or non SOWK (university transferable). These students are admitted into the third year of the four year program in Calgary or Edmonton. Once admitted into the program, Post Diploma students complete 20 half-course equivalencies. Of these courses, twelve are social work and eight are general education courses.

### **POST-DIPLOMA OPEN STUDIES OPTION**

Students with unsuccessful applications to the university may complete post-secondary courses towards the degree option they choose and re-apply for the following intake. The number of courses and the required level (Senior or Junior) depends on the program. Please contact the University of Calgary or a RDC Academic Advisor for further information.

## **APPLICATION RELATED INFORMATION**

### **UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK LEARNING CIRCLES DIVISION, RED DEER SITE**

There are two applications, one to the University and one to the Faculty. The application and supporting documentation deadline is April 1, 2013. The transcript deadline is June 30, 2013. The deadline for Early Admission is February 15, 2013. These are strict deadlines and must be adhered to-there is no flexibility with these dates. Students are permitted to apply to **only one** Social Work program. Students may choose another faculty program as a second choice however it cannot be Social Work.

The application to the University is online only and can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca>. Select *Apply for Fall 2012 Admission* and follow the instructions. Please note that there is a \$115.00 application fee.

The Faculty application and reference forms can be found at <http://www.fsw.ucalgary.ca/>. On the Faculty website select *Prospective Students* select *Application Forms* on the left hand menu. Under *BSW Forms* you will find the *Faculty of Social Work application* form and *Reference Letter Request form*. The Faculty of Social application form must be printed off and filled out; there is no online option for this application. You must download the application, fill it out and mail it directly to the Faculty of Social Work at the University.

## HOW TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

### PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

**NAME:** Elaine Spencer  
**OFFICE:** 3121  
**PHONE:** 403.342.3369  
**EMAIL:** [elaine.spencer@rdc.ab.ca](mailto:elaine.spencer@rdc.ab.ca)  
**PROGRAM WEBSITE:**  
[http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic\\_departments/social\\_work/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_departments/social_work/Pages/default.aspx)

### ACADEMIC ADVISING:

**OFFICE:** Room 1102  
**PHONE:** 403-342-3163  
**EMAIL:** [advisors@rdc.ab.ca](mailto:advisors@rdc.ab.ca)  
**WEBSITE:** [www.rdc.ab.ca/academic\\_advising](http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising)  
**RDC WEBSITE:** [www.rdc.ab.ca](http://www.rdc.ab.ca)  
**ALBERTA TRANSFER GUIDE:** [www.acat.gov.ab.ca](http://www.acat.gov.ab.ca)

### UNIVERSITY CONTACTS:

University of Calgary Phone: 403.220.5942  
Email: [socialwk@ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialwk@ucalgary.ca)  
Main Homepage: [www.ucalgary.ca/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/)  
Faculty Homepage: <http://fsw.ucalgary.ca/>

BSW Learning Circles Program Phone: 1.888.492.2083  
Email: [fswcnar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:fswcnar@ucalgary.ca)  
RDC Site Leader: Sherri Tanchuk  
Phone: 780.492.4557  
Email: [sltancha@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sltancha@ucalgary.ca)

### Student Advisor:

Tanisha Moore (Northern Locations)	Phone: 780-492-2083 Email: <a href="mailto:tmoor@ucalgary.ca">tmoor@ucalgary.ca</a>	Patti-Jo Aiken (Southern locations)	Phone: 1.403.329.279 Email: <a href="mailto:aiken@uleth.ca">aiken@uleth.ca</a>
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### Undergraduate Advsiors:

Ellen Schmaltz	Phone: 1.877.282.0667 Email: <a href="mailto:schmaltz@ucalgary.ca">schmaltz@ucalgary.ca</a>	Teresa Mo	Phone: 1.403.329.279 Email: <a href="mailto:tmo@ucalgary.ca">tmo@ucalgary.ca</a>
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### PLEASE NOTE:

Please be aware that you are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer College and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer (if applicable).

You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit, admission requirements for future programs, or eligibility to graduate from Red Deer College. Please consult with an academic advisor if you have any questions.

The function of academic advisors is to provide students with information and resources that enable them to make informed decisions relevant to their education. These resources include the Red Deer College Calendar, the Academic Planning Guide for your chosen program and Destination University (if applicable), the Alberta Transfer Guide and the calendar and contact information for your destination university. Academic advisors will assist you in interpreting information from these resources or refer you to your destination university if appropriate. Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.