

Individualized Program of Study

At Brown School, students may choose, within a constant structure, and with guidance from their advisor, an individualized program of study in a specified field of practice. Brown School requires that the individualized program of study follow the same structure of the other concentrations. Students undertaking an individualized program of study must take at least 23 credit hours in their program of study consisting of at least:

- one concentration social policy course relevant to the specified individualized field of practice;
- one theory, problems and issues course relevant to the specified individualized field of practice;
- three advanced practice methods courses relevant to the specified individualized field of practice;
- an evaluation course; and
- a concentration practicum relevant to the specified individualized interest.

In order to pursue an individualized program of study, students must prepare a proposal that details the rationale for their course of study, how they will meet the Brown School's concentration structural requirements, and each course that they will take, including electives. This proposal undergoes a rigorous review by the student's advisor. Usually after changes are made based on the advisor's recommendations, it goes to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for review and possible approval. Students must submit the proposal for the individualized program of study **by the time they complete 30 credit hours** in the MSW program. Individualized Program of Study Proposal forms may be obtained on Inside Brown. *Students will not be identified as conducting an individualized program of study until the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs has approved their individualized program of study proposal.* Samples of individualized concentration proposals follow this description.

Individualized Concentration Course Requirements

(See “Proposed Course Offerings” for prerequisites and co-requisites)

Social Policy

One required policy course (3 credits)

Theory, Problems, and Issues

One required theories, problems and issues course (3 credits)

Practice Methods

Three required practice methods courses. (9 credits)

Evaluation

All students select one of the following:

S40-5842 Social Policy Analysis and Evaluation

S50-5050 Evaluation of Programs and Services

Practicum

Five credits (600 hours) of practicum are required. The practice experience must be in an approved practicum site. The primary focus of the agency must support the individualized program of study. Agencies can be either private or public and often have an interdisciplinary focus. The practicum site can offer learning opportunities in direct services or planning and administration. Students must work with diverse populations in practicum.

Faculty Coordinator:

In planning and developing your individualized program of study proposal it is important that you work with your academic advisor. For additional information on the Individualized Program of Study contact Tonya Edmond, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Goldfarb 240, (314) 935-8131, tee1@wustl.edu.