



Mission Statement

"The California State University, East Bay Master of Social Work program is committed to graduating culturally competent urban social workers in the areas of Children, Youth and Families and Community Mental Health. Social work graduates are prepared to address individual, family, group and community needs caused by inequalities of class, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation and other forms of social injustice. These themes, coupled with an emphasis on advocacy and social change, form the core of the MSW program."

Program Goals

- to educate social workers who in their roles as change agents, will be able to practice in increasingly complex, culturally and racially diverse communities and will develop strategies and skills to support and leverage their leadership roles in public social service organizations charged with responding to societal problems such as poverty, family instability, mental illness, child welfare and urban renewal;
- to prepare social work practitioners who are capable of autonomous practice with diverse populations of individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities;
- to prepare social workers who are committed to serving, advocating for, and mobilizing client communities to address the special needs of underserved, poor and oppressed populations;
- to provide our graduates with a foundation in ethical urban advanced practice methodologies with the ability to demonstrate sensitivity to and competence in addressing issues of race, culture, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, disability, gender and age over the life course; and
- to create social work practitioners who are competent consumers of social research and to engage in critical self-evaluation in practice settings with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.



Program Objectives

1. **Values and Ethics.** Demonstrate a firm understanding of and a commitment to uphold the core values, ethical principals and ethical standards of the social work profession as codified in the *NASW Code of Ethics*.
2. **Professional Use of Self.** Conduct self with increased autonomy in the professional social work role in the placement setting. This includes abilities such as: understanding personal values and biases and knowing their impact on clients; a commitment to the ongoing development of professional knowledge and skills, and the use of self effectively in the chosen area of concentration.
3. **Critical Thinking.** Demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking skills in the field setting through successful analysis and synthesis of information; application of evidence-based practice; and a willingness to modify plans of intervention accordingly.
4. **Applying Theory to Practice.** Demonstrate an ability to integrate relevant theoretical material into field experiences in the student's area of concentration. This includes the ability to articulate such theories with field instructors, field staff and/or intervention teams.
5. **Advocacy.** Demonstrate a commitment to and the ability to advocate for clients, groups and/or communities in increasingly complex situations specific to the student's area of concentration.
6. **Diversity.** Conduct self with self-awareness and increased knowledge of diverse populations, with the commitment to provide culturally competent service and advocacy.
7. **Communication.** Demonstrate a professional level of written and oral communication relevant to the concentration and the ability to communicate across diverse client systems.