

## UH Graduate College of Social Work Weekend College FAQs

***What is the Weekend College?*** The GCSW Weekend College is a program designed to provide people who may currently be working in social work related settings the opportunity to pursue their M.S.W. degree exclusively on weekends.

***What courses do flex option students take and how long will it take to complete the MSW program?*** The weekend program consists of 15 credit hours of foundation courses, and 48 credit hours of advanced courses. All advanced courses and both field practica (internships) have a **clinical focus**. As required for all of our MSW enrollment models, students must complete a minimum of 63 semester credit hours as well as grade requirements in order to meet the MSW degree requirements.

***When will classes be held?*** In the first semester, Weekend College students are required to attend Week 1 classes **the first Thursday and Friday of the semester during the day**. From Week 2 through Week 7 of the Fall 2010 semester, students attend classes on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6 – 9 pm and Saturdays from 9 – 5. For the remainder of the semester, students attend classes only on Saturdays and complete 16 - 20 hours of field per week. After the first semester, throughout the rest of the program, Weekend College students will take all of their courses on the weekend.

***Does this mean I'll be in school every Saturday for the next three years?*** Since not all courses will be delivered face-to-face, students will not be committing every Saturday of their lives for the next three and a half years. Faculty utilize different ways to deliver course content. A face-to-face course could use WebCT as a supplement. For example, students in a Saturday course might meet face-to-face every other week and complete other course assignments online during the in between weeks.

***Can I take some courses from the regular program and some from the weekend college?*** Yes. Although all required courses will be offered on the weekend with at least one elective offered each post foundation semester, Weekend College students are eligible to enroll in **electives** offered at other times/days of the week.

***Who are the faculty?*** Regular GCSW faculty members and adjunct faculty teach all the courses in the Weekend College.

***What will I need to do to complete the field requirements and will I be able to do it while working?*** For the first field placement (FP I and FP II), Weekend College students will be able to complete all field requirements on the weekends. The location of this placement will be selected by the field office, just as it is done for all MSW students' first field placements. The second placement (FP III and FP IV) is completed as a block placement during business hours on weekdays in the last semester of the program. The location will be determined with your input through the standard placement process used for all students. Weekend College students must make the necessary arrangements in their schedules to complete the field placement during the week – completion of field placement III and field placement IV at other times is not an option.

***How will I know what classes to take? How do I register for classes?*** Registration instructions are provided in summer advising meetings that precede your first semester of enrollment. Please see your confirmation form for a list of meeting dates/times – all incoming students must attend one of the summer advising sessions.

***Is financial aid available?*** Financial aid is available for students taking 5 hours or more in one semester. To find out more about federal loans and grants, contact the UH Financial Aid Office at 713-743-1010 or see their website at [www.uh.edu/enroll/sfa](http://www.uh.edu/enroll/sfa). You might also check with your place of employment to see if reimbursement programs are available.