

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

PRE-ENROLLMENT CHALLENGE EXAMINATIONS

for the

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE PROGRAM

601 Howard Place, NW
Washington, DC 20059

Phone: (202) 806-6450 Fax: (202) 483-5375

Websites: www.socialwork.howard.edu; www.howard.edu Email: socialworkadmissions@howard.edu

CHALLENGE EXAMINATION INFORMATION

The Challenge Examinations allow entering first year M.S.W. students to test out of first year M.S.W. courses. Students who have been accepted for admission to first year status in the M.S.W. program are eligible to take the examinations before formal enrollment in the program. The examinations are administered on a course-by-course basis, and academic background determines the nature and scope of the examinations which can be taken. M.S.W. new entrants who are graduates of undergraduate social work degree programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) may challenge all first year courses in the M.S.W. curriculum and may earn up to 30 credits through the examinations. Other M.S.W. new entrants may challenge first year M.S.W. courses with the exception of the social work practice methods course and the field education courses, and may earn up to 12 credits through the examinations. New entrants who pass the examinations are awarded course credit following formal enrollment in the program.

Students must meet the following three eligibility requirements to be admitted to the examinations:

- Examinees must be formally accepted for admission to first year status in the M.S.W. degree program.
- Examinees must satisfy Howard University's enrollment fee requirement. Howard University requires new students who are entering the university for the first time to pay a \$300.00 enrollment fee. M.S.W. new entrants must have paid the enrollment fee to be eligible to sit for the Challenge Examinations.
- Students must register for the Challenge Examinations at least two days before the examination date.

The School of Social Work administers the Challenge Examinations on the following dates:

Fall Semester

First Semester Examinations
Second Semester Examinations

First Thursday in August
First Friday in August

Spring Semester

First Semester Examinations
Second Semester Examinations

First Thursday in December
First Friday in December

The Challenge Examination schedule, registration form, and reading list are attached. Please retain this information for your records. This is the only notice about the Challenge Examinations that will be issued to incoming students. No additional notices will be issued before the examination dates.

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SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

CHALLENGE EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

FIRST SEMESTER COURSE EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Hour</u>	<u>Time</u>
Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	2	8:45 am – 10:00 am	1 hour 15 min.
Social Welfare Policy & Services I	2	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	2 hours
LUNCH		12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	1 hour
Social Work Practice & Processes*	3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	2 hours
Research Methods for Social Workers	2	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	2 hours

SECOND SEMESTER COURSE EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Hour</u>	<u>Time</u>
Human Behavior and the Social Environment II	2	8:45 am – 10:00 am	1 hour 15 min.
Social Welfare Policy & Services II	2	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	2 hours
LUNCH		12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	1 hour
Social Work Practice Methods: Direct Service Practice* or Community & Organization Assessment & Practice*	3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	2 hours
Data Analysis for Social Workers	2	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	2 hours

*Graduates of CSWE accredited B.S.W. degree programs only.

Admissions Office
Howard University School of Social Work
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HOWARD UNIVERSITY
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STUDY GUIDE

for the

**MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE PROGRAM
PRE-ENROLLMENT CHALLENGE EXAMINATIONS**

601 Howard Place, NW
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**CHALLENGE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE:
Course Content and Recommended Reading**

Human Behavior & The Social Environment I

I. Course Content

1. Major theories of lifespan development
2. Stages of human growth and development
3. Biopsychosocial bases of human behavior
4. Issues of human diversity: race, ethnicity, gender, culture, sexual orientation and socioeconomic forces

II. Recommended Readings

- Kaplan, H. I. & Saddock, B. J. (1998). *Synopsis of psychiatry: Behavioral sciences/clinical psychiatry (8th ed.)*. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins.
- McAdoo, H. P. and McAdoo, J. L. (Eds.). (1985) *Black children: Social, educational and parental environments*. California: Sage Publication.
- Newman, B. M. & Newman, P. T. (2003). *Development through life: A psychosocial approach (8th ed.)*. Belmont, California: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.

Human Behavior & The Social Environment II

I. Course Content

1. Theoretical perspectives of human development and implications for social work practice
2. Basic concepts and principles of systems theory as related to human behavior at various levels of interaction: individuals, groups, organizations and communities
3. Relevance of race, ethnicity, sex, culture and socioeconomic status to human development and social work practice

II. Recommended Reading

- Longres, J. (2000). *Human behavior in the social environment (3rd ed.)*. Itasca, IL: F. E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.

Social Work Practice & Processes (Practice Methods I)

I. Course Content

1. Social work generalist practice foundation
2. Social work values and ethics
3. Problem-solving at various levels of social work intervention: direct services and macro
4. Social work interview

II. Recommended Readings

Johnson, L. C. & Yanca. (2001). *Social work practice: A generalist approach* (6th ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Martin, E. P. & Martin, J. M. (1995). *A historical and theoretical overview. Social work and the black perspective* (pp. 1-20). Washington, DC, NASW Press.

National Association of Social Workers. (1995). *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. (19th ed.). Washington, DC: NASW Press

- Hunter, J. & Schaescher, R. – Gay and Lesbian Adolescents, pp 1055-1063.
- Berger, R. & Kelly, J. – Gay Men Overview, pp. 1064-1075.
- Woodman, N. – Lesbian: Direct Practice, pp. 1587 – 1604.
- Bricker-Jenkins, M. & Lockett, P. – Women: Direct Practice, pp. 2529-2539.

Schiele, J. H. (1996). *Afrocentricity: An emerging paradigm in social work practice. Social work*, (3), 284-294.

Direct Service Practice (Practice Methods II)

I. Course Content

1. Problem-solving process with individuals, families and small groups
2. Development of skills in communication, interviewing, and use of the professional relationship
3. Develop understanding of the referral, termination and evaluation process
4. Develop knowledge and understanding of how values and ethics impact on the assessment process, particularly with women, racial and ethnic groups, and special populations (elderly, gay and lesbian persons, etc.)

II. Recommended Readings

Boyd-Franklin, N. (1989). *Black families in therapy: A multisystems approach*. New York: The Guilford Press.

Goldstein, E. G. (1995). *Ego psychology and social work practice* (2nd ed.). New York: The Free Press.

Hepworth, D., Rooney, R. H., & Larsen, J. (2002). *Direct social work practice* (6th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.

Martin, E. P. & Martin, J. M. (2002). *Spirituality and the black helping tradition in social work*. Washington, DC: NASW Press.

Martin, E. P. & Martin, J. M. (1995). *Social work and the black experience*. Annapolis, MD: National Association of Social Workers Press.

Community & Organization Assessment & Practice (CAP Practice Methods I)

I. Course Content

1. Macro conceptual approach to social work practice.
2. Principal macro value and ethical dilemmas and issues.
3. Frameworks for assessing communities and organizations for planned change intervention.
4. Knowledge of how macro institutions can be utilized to address differential needs of diverse populations.

II. Recommended Readings

Kirst-Ashman, K. & Hull, G. (2001). *Generalist practice with organizations and communities* (2nd ed.). Stamford, CT: Brooks/Cole.

T'Shaka, O. (1990). *The art of leadership*. Richmond, CA: Pan Afrikan Publications.

Weil, M. (1996). *Community practice: Conceptual models*. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press.

Social Welfare Policy & Services I & II

I. Course Content

1. History of social welfare policy and services.
2. Contemporary social service delivery systems.
3. Linkages between social policy activity and political economic and value systems.
4. Models for policy analysis and planned social change.

II. Recommended Readings

Barusch, A. S. (2002). *Foundations of social policy: Social justice, public programs, and the social work profession*. Itasca, IL: F. E. Peacock Publishers.

Carlton-LaNey, I. B. (Ed.). (2001). *African American leadership: An empowerment tradition in social welfare history*. Washington, DC: NASW Press.

Dye, T. R. (2002). *Understanding public policy* (10th ed.). New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Ellis, R. A. (2003). *Impacting social policy: A practitioner's guide to analysis and action*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Franklin, D. L. (1997). *Ensuring inequality: The structural transformation of the African American family*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Jansson, B. S. (2003). *Becoming an effective policy advocate: From policy practice to social justice* (4th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Research Methods for Social Workers (Research I)

I. Course Content

1. Problem-solving within the content of research and social work practice.
2. Identification of major types of research designs.
3. Various procedures for sampling and collecting data; assessing the reliability and validity of instruments.

II. Recommended Readings

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Heppner, P. P., Kivlighan, D.M., & Wampold, B.E. (1999). *Research design in counseling* (2nd ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Patton, M. Q. (1987). *How to use qualitative methods in evaluation*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications.

Rubin, A. & Babie, E. (2001). *Research methods for social work* (4th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Weinbach, R. W. & Grinnell, R. M. (2001). *Statistics for social workers* (5th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Data Analysis for Social Workers (Research II)

I. Course Content

1. Data collection techniques and analysis of data.
2. Display techniques using charts, tables and graphs.
3. Appropriate use of parametric and nonparametric statistical tests.

II. Recommended Readings

Cronk, B. C. (2002). *How to use SPSS: A step-by-step guide to analysis and interpretation*. Los Angeles, CA: Pycszak Publishing.

Weinbach, R. W. & Grinnell, R. M. (2001). *Statistics for social workers* (5th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

NOTE: If these books are not available, you may also review books used in your BSW courses or books found in other college, university or public libraries that include similar content.