

# SP2

ONE MISSION ONE SCHOOL ONE WORLD





# ONE MISSION

The University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice (SP2) contributes to the advancement of more effective, efficient, and humane human services through education, research, and civic engagement. The passionate pursuit of social innovation, impact, and justice is at the heart of the School's knowledge-building activities.

“My education at SP2 broadened my understanding of social change and simultaneously focused my understanding of ways to create that change. I honed many skills including policy analysis, program evaluation, research methods, community organizing, and writing techniques that I use on an everyday basis in my professional life.”

SARA ANSELL, '09



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

3

# THE PASSIONATE PURSUIT OF SOCIAL INNOVATION, IMPACT, AND JUSTICE



The University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice (SP2) is the only school of its kind in the nation. SP2 students learn from one another across five distinctive but complementary programs, which allows them to receive training that no other school of social work, social policy, or philanthropy can duplicate. The School's confluence of diverse philosophies and approaches is a testament to the challenges its faculty and students seek to address. The world's most intractable social issues can't be solved from within individual disciplines. They demand collaboration across fields and methods.

SP2's unique structure facilitates such linkages exceptionally well. The practical and analytical training our students receive is superb and empowers graduates to see the world through a multidisciplinary prism that makes them much more effective professionals, citizens, and social leaders in an amazingly diverse world.

We have attempted to capture the essence of SP2 through this viewbook. I hope you will identify with our mission, discover the impact of our school, and be inspired to join us in working for social justice around the world.

**John L. Jackson Jr., PhD**

Dean

Richard Perry University Professor



# ONE SCHOOL

For more than 100 years, SP2 has been a powerful force for good in the world, working towards social justice and social change through research and practice. Students are encouraged to embrace the interdisciplinary opportunities that SP2 and the University of Pennsylvania have to offer.



# INTELLECTUAL RIGOR AND THE PURSUIT OF INNOVATIVE KNOWLEDGE

Much like Philadelphia, a quilt of diverse but interwoven neighborhoods, Penn is a community of communities, a place both of focused academic expertise and of collaborative exploration across disciplinary boundaries.

## PENN THEN

An Ivy League university established in 1740, Penn emerged as a revolutionary institution that sought to expand higher education beyond theological training. Benjamin Franklin, the University's founder, envisioned Penn as a place to educate the policymakers, entrepreneurs, and public servants whose passions would shape a young city and a new nation. Charged with never divorcing the pursuit of knowledge from its implications for practical good, Franklin's university would forever change the nature of American education.

## PENN NOW

Today, Penn bears the indelible mark of its founder, leveraging its world-class resources in the continued pursuit of peerless intellectual inquiry and commitment to social good. Grounded in an ethos of inclusion, innovation, and impact, Penn challenges its students and faculty to integrate their wide-ranging bodies of knowledge and experience for the benefit of our local, national, and global communities.

Its four undergraduate and twelve graduate schools—all united on one beautiful, historic campus—nurture an unparalleled academic life amongst the scholars and innovators who call Penn home.

10,406

Full-time undergraduate students

11,035

Full-time graduate students

## INTERDISCIPLINARY AREAS OF STUDY



**SP2 is a national leader in combining interdisciplinary research and practice for the betterment of others. The School prepares graduates for leadership in social policy and practice via outstanding interdisciplinary dual-degree programs.**

**302 ACRE CAMPUS**  
Located in West Philadelphia

# EDUCATING STUDENTS TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGE

# 491

Number of students enrolled

# 87%

Master's Degree

# 13%

Doctoral Degree

# 85%

Full-Time

# 15%

Part-Time

SP2 prepares students to make positive changes in society through five distinctive and purposeful degree programs. Work and study extend across disciplinary boundaries and into the broader University and local communities.

[www.sp2.upenn.edu/degree-programs](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/degree-programs)

## MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

Fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the MSW prepares social workers to develop and provide services to individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations at local, national, and global levels.

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL POLICY (MSSP)

The MSSP prepares students for policy leadership positions in government, philanthropy, research institutes, nonprofits, and more. Students learn to use policy to increase equality, promote equity, and forge social change.

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP (NPL)

The NPL masters focuses on new approaches and innovative thinking. Our students are collaborative agents of change, addressing long-term challenges in and through nonprofits, social enterprises, international NGOs, and beyond.

## PHD IN SOCIAL WELFARE (PHD)

The PhD program develops leaders in academia and research. We foster scholarly energy, creativity, extensive knowledge, and expansive skills. Graduates launch their careers with confidence and competence in multiple spheres.

## DOCTORATE IN CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK (DSW)

The DSW prepares clinical experts, inspired teachers, and real-world scholars. Students earn the doctorate in three years through a combination of campus immersion experiences and distance learning.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY OPPORTUNITIES

SP2 offers a variety of dual degrees, certificate programs, and specializations that allow students to more effectively address the ever-growing complexity of social problems.

# 1908

Under the direction of Franklin Pepper, the Children's Bureau of Philadelphia inaugurates "A Course of Training in Child-Helping" for social work professionals in Philadelphia.

# 1914

The School works to revise and strengthen the curriculum. To recognize its impact in the field, the School changes its name to The Pennsylvania School for Social Service.

# 1934

The School responds quickly to the social service needs imposed by the Great Depression. Its name is changed to the Pennsylvania School of Social Work.

# 1948

The Pennsylvania School of Social Work merges with the University of Pennsylvania, allowing for interdisciplinary study and a critical expansion in its scope of work.

# 1989

To meet the needs of a growing academic field, the School begins offering an interdisciplinary, research-based PhD in Social Welfare degree.

# 2005

The School changes its name to Penn Social Policy & Practice (SP2) to reflect a new mission and structure for the future.

# 2005

A Master of Science in Nonprofit Leadership (NPL) degree is developed to fulfill a growing need for leaders and managers in the social service field.

# 2006

The Master of Science in Social Policy (MSSP) degree program is established, advancing the mission of SP2 within the policy sector.

# 2007

Recognizing a need in the profession, SP2 offers the first advanced social work practice degree, the Doctorate in Clinical Social Work (DSW).

# 2014

Ready to further advance SP2's impact throughout the world, Dr. John L. Jackson, Jr. is named Dean of the School of Social Policy & Practice.

**SP2 has advanced social justice and progress for more than a century, educating the leading practitioners and scholars who serve society's most vulnerable members.**



# ENGAGING, ENRICHING, AND EMPOWERING

Students at SP2 enjoy the advantages of a small, nurturing school community nestled in a large, vibrant Ivy League university within one of America’s most historic and diverse cities, Philadelphia.

Students play an active role in shaping the School’s culture, policies, and future directions. Our students are invited to serve on SP2 governance and planning committees, where they have the chance to be heard on issues related to student policies and procedures as well as the curriculum. Other opportunities for students to enhance their experiences at SP2 include getting involved in student organizations and taking advantage of support centers and student hubs at the School and around campus.

Our students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities such as discussion groups, lectures, and film nights that extend classroom learning about oppression and difference and raise awareness, understanding, and respect for the intersectionality of race/ethnicity, gender, class, religion, sexuality, disability, and other markers of difference.

There are numerous campus hubs and communities that offer support and resources to students including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Center, Greenfield Intercultural Center, Penn Women’s Center, and many more community spaces.

We invite students to immerse themselves in School and campus life and take advantage of the many opportunities SP2 and Penn have to offer!

90%

Percentage of applicants who requested and received financial aid and scholarships

\$3M Financial aid dollars awarded each year

[www.sp2.upenn.edu/student-life](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/student-life)

STUDENT GOVERNMENT	ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS	CRIMINAL JUSTICE BLOC
DISABILITIES SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP	THE JEWISH SOCIAL WORK ALLIANCE	UNITED COMMUNITY CLINIC
HISPANIC/LATINO ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE AND EQUITY	QSP2	SOCIAL WORK ADVOCATES FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS
SP2 SCHOOL SOCIAL GROUP	STUDENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL WORK	Learn more about our student groups by visiting <a href="http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/student-life/student-organizations">www.sp2.upenn.edu/student-life/student-organizations</a>

Student organizations at SP2 enhance and expand the educational opportunities for students through advocacy, service, and practice. In addition to supporting members in their academic pursuits, groups also plan social and educational activities for the broader SP2 and Penn communities.

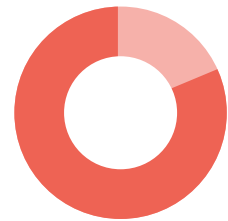
## DIVERSITY

## A COMMITMENT TO UNDERSTANDING AND EMBRACING DIVERSITY

Diversity in its myriad forms—varied identities, experiences, and histories—is valued at SP2. The School strives to be as inclusive as possible, valuing differences of opinion and attempting to foster an environment where we think openly, honestly, sincerely, and deeply about the questions and concerns that both unite and divide us.

For our faculty, students, and staff, diversity is a multifaceted concept that includes careful treatment of questions about how differences linked to race, sexuality, gender, religion, ideology, mental illness, ethnicity, class, age, and so much more systematically hierarchize us. The questions we deal with are some of the biggest in the academy, and many seem intractable. We recognize that we have the best chance of doing justice to our concerns by embodying a truly diverse and inclusive space for re-imagining our social world.

SP2's ability to produce cutting-edge research and to train trailblazing students is predicated, in part, on our commitment to faculty diversity of various kinds. As a truly Franklinian institution devoted "to the advancement of more effective, efficient, and just human services through education, research, and civic engagement," our school and its faculty should reflect the peoples and cultures of those with whom we and our graduates work. SP2 educates students to work in a diverse world.



82% Female | 18% Male

SP2 strives to accurately understand structural impediments to human striving and equality. Our historic focus on analyzing the social implications of racialization and racism is uniquely woven into the curriculum.

# 36%

Percentage of students who identify as Asian, Black, Hispanic, or having multiple ethnicities

[www.sp2.upenn.edu/diversity-inclusion](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/diversity-inclusion)



"The SP2 community is full of both students and professors who possess a wide variety of interests which created an environment where I was constantly able to learn more about other people's passions while also more carefully exploring my own."

KIRSTIN CORNELL, '12





# PLACING SCHOLARLY INTERESTS IN SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC GOOD

“For anyone interested in social impact, SP2 is the place to explore new ideas, uncover cutting edge practices, and build lasting connections. All members of the SP2 community share a desire to solve the most complex social problems by designing and implementing innovative new policies and programs that create real and lasting public value.”

**PETER FRUMKIN, PHD**  
MINDY AND ANDREW HEYER CHAIR IN SOCIAL POLICY

The SP2 faculty upholds Penn’s commitment to engage locally and globally. Internationally regarded for producing cutting-edge research, our distinguished scholars, practitioners, and policy advisors bring a broad range of real-world expertise and interdisciplinary focus to the classroom setting. The research of the SP2 faculty is transforming policy and shaping best-practices on international, federal, and local levels.

Although we are an Ivy League institution, our faculty members are not stuck in anyone’s proverbial ivory tower. The faculty’s important research and activism stretch across the social sciences and the humanities in ways that link nuanced methodological inquiries and important research questions to attempts at real-world problem-solving.

SP2 faculty members are readily available to students. They are inspirational instructors and supportive mentors and advisors, helping students to approach problems in innovative and creative ways.

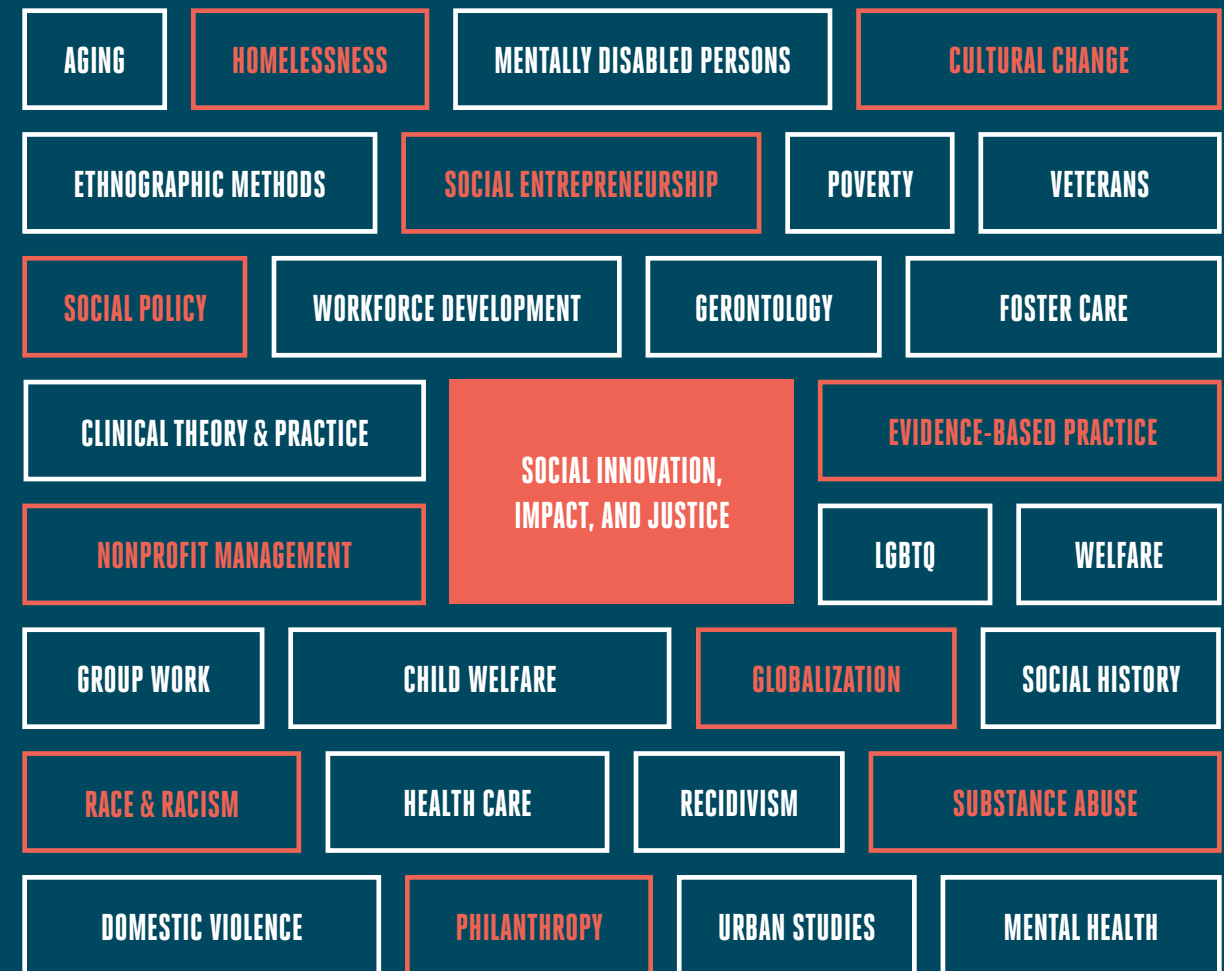
# #5

Our MSW program is ranked 5th in the country by Princeton Review’s Gourman Report, which is one of the few national rankings that includes research. Faculty and students from all 5 programs contribute to the body of knowledge at SP2.

[www.sp2.upenn.edu/people/standing-faculty](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/people/standing-faculty)

“SP2 is an exciting research environment for the study of complex problems like homelessness because we have such an interdisciplinary faculty. Colleagues who are experts in behavioral health, child welfare, housing, HIV, and social policy analysis work together on a range of projects. Without those diverse perspectives, we wouldn’t be able to take a holistic approach, or have as much success in deepening our understanding and improving social programs for this vulnerable population.”

**DENNIS CULHANE, PHD**  
DANA AND ANDREW STONE CHAIR IN SOCIAL POLICY



## A DEDICATED AND COMMITTED FACULTY

The interdisciplinary nature of SP2 creates unique opportunities for research and study, for both students and faculty.

“SP2 opens doors for all to come up with sound ideas and good intentions, with a foundation of knowledge and skills. It is a challenge to study among the best and to be taught by professors who carry out cutting edge research. Yet how else we can make society a better place?”

**RAM CNAAN, MSW, PHD**

“By integrating students at all levels of study into cutting edge research, we grow the next generation of scholars and scientists who can take up the charge in nurturing the ethical translation of science to practice while protecting vulnerable populations.”

**ALLISON WERNER-LIN, PHD, MA, EDM**

“It is a privilege to share the classroom with some of the brightest minds in social work. Not only does this make teaching exciting, but it also gives me great hope. We are educating professionals who will be more than capable to address society’s biggest challenges.”

**JOHANNA GREESON, PHD, MSS, MLSP**

“SP2 focuses on both the principles of reparation and the creating of possibilities. We affirm that personal, familial, community, societal restoration, and revitalization occur in tandem with bringing to life the gestating possibilities latent in every situation.”

**KENWYN SMITH, PHD**

# 45%

While devoted to SP2, 45% of the standing faculty have taught in other disciplines at Penn in the spirit of interdisciplinary collaboration.

Dean John L. Jackson, Jr. is the 1st Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) professor. This program attracts leading scholars whose research overlaps disciplines and bridges different parts of the University.



[www.sp2.upenn.edu/research-centers](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/research-centers)

SP2’s research centers and special projects advance knowledge through ground-breaking studies, interdisciplinary cooperation, and professional development. They share important information on contemporary social issues through publications and conferences.

**ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE  
FOR SOCIAL POLICY**

**CENTER FOR HIGH IMPACT  
PHILANTHROPY**

**CENTER FOR MENTAL  
HEALTH AND AGING**

**CENTER FOR SOCIAL  
IMPACT STRATEGY**

**EVELYN JACOBS ORTNER  
CENTER ON  
FAMILY VIOLENCE**

**FIELD CENTER FOR  
CHILDREN’S POLICY,  
PRACTICE & RESEARCH**

**NATIONAL CENTER  
ON HOMELESSNESS  
AMONG VETERANS**

**PROGRAM FOR  
RELIGION AND SOCIAL  
POLICY RESEARCH**

**SOCIAL IMPACT OF THE  
ARTS PROJECT**



# ONE WORLD

**Students come to SP2 from around the world to learn how to be powerful forces for good. After earning their degrees, alumni take their gifts, skills, and knowledge to all sectors of society, connecting the dots between issues that are local and international, intimate and institutional.**

PHILADELPHIA

# WORKING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN A THRIVING METROPOLIS

The University of Pennsylvania is nestled in the historic and vibrant city of Philadelphia – America’s fifth largest city. Hailed as a “city of neighborhoods,” Philadelphia offers much to explore, including a thriving arts and culture sector, delicious and diverse dining destinations, iconic historic sites, and one of the Nation’s largest City Park systems.

Located in West Philadelphia, also known as University City, Penn’s urban campus is spread over 302 acres. With its green lawns and landmark architecture, the beautiful campus houses all of Penn’s activities, from student life, athletics, and cultural life to academics, research, and scholarship. SP2 is located on Locust Walk — the campus’ main thoroughfare.

Philadelphia is part of every Penn student’s education. SP2’s students, faculty, staff, and alumni strengthen the University’s relationship with the surrounding communities through dynamic opportunities to positively impact organizations and initiatives. SP2 connects students with field placements, internships, and practicums throughout the city.

Philadelphia was instrumental to our nation’s past and is vital to our global future. Increasingly becoming more diverse in culture, economics, and population, Philadelphia is an ideal classroom for the next generation of social change agents and leaders.



“I loved that each student could choose their own personal emphasis; not only did this allow me to focus on my own interest in Criminal Justice, but our classes were filled with enriching dialog. The conversations, the connections with students and faculty, and the wide range of classes have thoroughly prepared me for my career in policy and research.”

—  
TARA MATTHEWS, '11

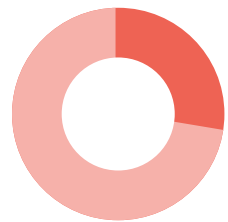


600

Number of field placement, internship, and practicum sites available

1/4 MILLION HOURS

Students dedicate a combined 250,000 hours in the field each year.



27% of students received a job offer from an agency where they completed a field placement, internship, or practicum.



GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES

# GAIN A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE THROUGH OUR MANY INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The reach of SP2's mission and work does not end at the Philadelphia city lines. Profoundly conscious of the need to empower agents of social justice in communities the world over, the School takes seriously its responsibility to prepare students for social change leadership both nationally and internationally.

The School's curriculum and programming are designed to embody a global focus at every level. From the coursework that emphasizes sensitive cultural competencies, to the organizations designed to foster intercultural engagement on and around campus, the School community actively embraces and advances a global outlook. The work of our faculty, too, cuts across geographic boundaries, addressing issues of global justice, health, and social services as diverse as homelessness and HIV, economic mobility, and mental illness.

SP2 welcomes students and scholars from around the globe and encourages its students to deepen their own understandings of the world through study abroad experiences in an array of countries. Formal exchange programs, global electives, and independent study provide SP2 students ample opportunities to enrich their perspectives on the social customs, public policies, and human needs of the ever-globalizing world.



“Many times I hear colleagues struggle with a choice of whether to be a researcher or an activist. While at Penn, I figured that out: Why must I choose?”  
**JEFFREY DRAINE, '95**




**35 US STATES**

**11 COUNTRIES**

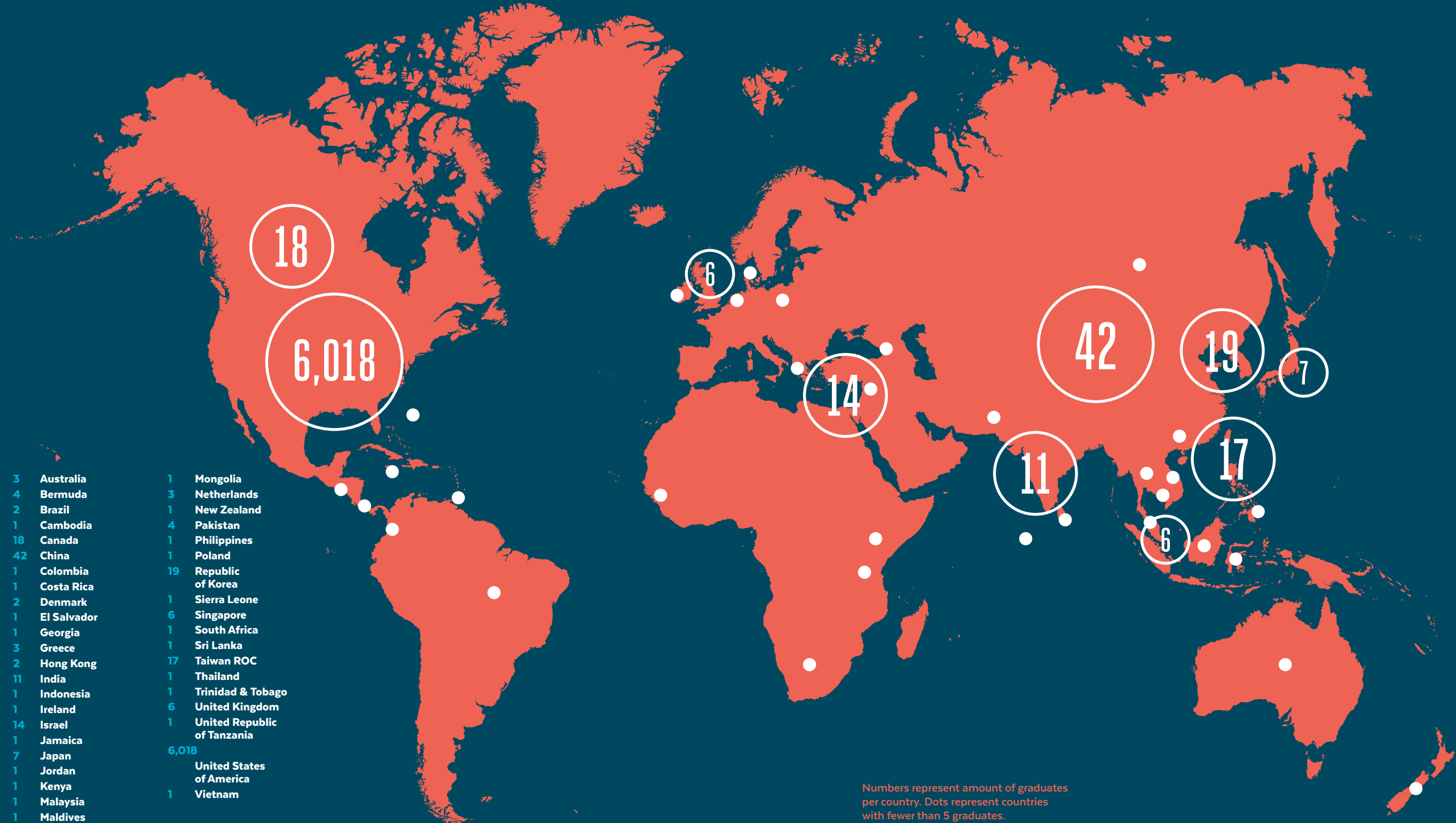
Students come from 35 US states & territories and 11 countries to study at SP2.

Over the past few years, SP2 faculty and students have researched and studied in China, India, Korea, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Israel, Costa Rica, Finland, and Botswana.

 [www.sp2.upenn.edu/global-engagement](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/global-engagement)



## WHERE ARE OUR ALUMNI?



## WHAT ARE OUR ALUMNI DOING?

- DISASTER RISK REDUCTION COORDINATOR**  
Oxfam GB, Indonesia
- MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKER**  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
- COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER**  
Northeast Region for Capital One Bank
- DIRECTOR OF PATIENT AND FAMILY SERVICES**  
Abramson Cancer Center, Penn Medicine
- CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**  
Spark
- HOSPICE SOCIAL WORKER**  
Keystone Care
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATOR**  
Jewish Family & Children's Services
- DEPUTY COMMISSIONER**  
State of Vermont Department of Education
- PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST**  
National Network to End Domestic Violence
- ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, & INTERVENTION SPECIALIST**  
School District of Philadelphia
- COMMUNITY AFFAIRS MANAGER**  
Microsoft China, China
- SENIOR CONSULTANT**  
MADE-BY, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- FORENSIC SOCIAL WORKER**  
Office of Forensic Services State of Maryland
- POLICY ANALYST**  
Young Women's Christian Association Orange County
- MANAWATU PRACTICE MANAGER**  
Open Homes Foundation, New Zealand
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PSYCHOSOCIAL ONCOLOGY PROGRAM**  
King Hussein Cancer Center
- SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**  
Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life
- CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS**  
Glasswing International, El Salvador
- DIRECTOR OF RECOVERY AND RED CROSS HOUSE**  
The American Red Cross
- SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR**  
Guide Youth Services
- ADVOCACY COORDINATOR**  
Delaware Center for Justice
- COUNTY LIAISON**  
Colorado Department of Human Services
- MITIGATION SPECIALIST**  
Defender Association of Philadelphia
- DIRECTOR**  
Haifa Drug Abuse Treatment Center, Israel
- ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
DC Office of the Attorney General
- SOCIAL WORK SERVICES INSPECTOR**  
Scottish Executive, UK

SP2 is a special place to study. Our faculty, students, staff, and alumni continue to demonstrate the value of putting cutting-edge scholarship, research, and theory in service to the public good across the globe. Learn more about SP2 by visiting our website at [www.sp2.upenn.edu](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu) or by contacting the Admissions Office.

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## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL POLICY & PRACTICE

[www.sp2.upenn.edu](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu)

[apply@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:apply@sp2.upenn.edu)

215.746.1934

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Philadelphia, PA 19104-6214



[www.sp2.upenn.edu](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu)  
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#### University of Pennsylvania Nondiscrimination Statement

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected class status in the administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or other University-administered programs or in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to the Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, Sansom Place East, 3600 Chestnut Street, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106; or (215) 898-6993.

#### Disclaimer

This publication is neither a contract nor an offer of a contract. The information it contains was accurate at the time of its publishing. Fees, deadlines, academic requirements, courses, degree programs, housing availability and other matters described in this publication may change without notice. The School reserves the right to amend, modify or rescind any policy and to create new policies at any time in its sole discretion.

#### Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics

The federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, as amended, requires colleges and universities to provide information related to security policies and procedures and specific statistics for criminal incidents, arrests, and disciplinary referrals to students and employees, and to make the information and statistics available to prospective students and employees upon request. To review the University's most recent annual report containing this information, please visit: [www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/clery/report](http://www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/clery/report) or [www.upenn.edu/almanac/crimes-index.html](http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/crimes-index.html)

Photography by Candace diCarlo and Scott Spitzer





# MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

Fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the MSW program educates social workers for leadership roles in developing and providing services to individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations in local, national, and global arenas.

Penn's MSW program is one of the country's oldest and most well-respected social work programs. Rooted in a commitment to social justice and guided by renowned faculty, the MSW program offers small classes and exceptional professional preparation through its emphasis on field education. Students take advantage of the benefits of an Ivy League university, including interdisciplinary courses, dual degree programs, extracurricular opportunities, and an international alumni network.

**"My draw to the social work profession came from my desire for social justice and peace throughout the world. I strive to help clients live reasonably satisfying lives, comfortable with themselves and in society. SP2 has provided me with incredible skills and tools to continue the efforts of what I have believed has become my life calling."**

**-Lindsey Brown, MSW '11  
School Based Mental Health  
Counselor, Guide Youth Services**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

[apply@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:apply@sp2.upenn.edu)  
215.746.1934  
[www.sp2.upenn.edu/msw](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/msw)



UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

## DEGREE OPTIONS

- Advanced Standing (10-month)
- Full-time (2-year)
- Part-time (3-year)
- Employed Practitioner (3-year)

## CERTIFICATE & SPECIALIZATION OPTIONS

- Child Well-Being & Child Welfare Specialization (CW2)
- Cohen Veteran's Network MSW Scholars Program
- Criminal Justice Specialization
- Goldring Reentry Initiative (GRI)
- Health Care Social Work Specialization
- Penn Aging Certificate (PAC)
- Global Human Rights Certificate
- Home-School Visitor Certification
- Certificate in Jewish Communal Service

## DUAL DEGREE OPTIONS

- Bachelor of Arts (University of Pennsylvania submatriculation)
- Juris Doctor (JD)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Bioethics (MBE)
- Master of City Planning (MCP)
- Master of Law (ML)
- Master of Public Administration (MPA)
- Master of Public Health (MPH)
- Master of Science in Criminology (MS)
- Master of Science in Education (MSEd)
- Master of Science in Nonprofit Leadership (NPL)
- Master of Science in Social Policy (MSSP)
- PhD in Social Welfare (PhD)

## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

The foundation curriculum provides an orientation to the profession and a basis for understanding practice. Students choose a clinical or macro concentration in the final year of study. Field education is integral to the program, allowing students to learn the intricacies of social work practice and policy.

## PROGRAM AUDIENCE

Four program options, with full- and part-time study, put the MSW degree within reach for a diverse cohort of students, from working professionals and recent college graduates to career-changers or those balancing other commitments.

## POST-DEGREE EMPLOYMENT SITES

### AARP

American Red Cross

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Association of Jewish Family  
and Children's Agencies

Chicago Public Schools

Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia

City of Philadelphia

Clinical Practice

Community Legal Services

Congreso de Latinos Unidos

Department of Veterans Affairs

Episcopal Community Services

National Institutes of Health

The United Way

UNICEF

U.S. Department of Justice

YMCA



## APPLICATION DEADLINES

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

### Priority Application Deadlines:

Advanced Standing: **January 15th**

Full-time, Part-time, & Employed Practitioner: **February 1st**

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree with a liberal arts perspective or in social work from an accredited undergraduate social work program
- Undergraduate record demonstrating academic achievement
- Personal qualifications such as maturity, critical thinking, good judgement, oral and written communication skills, integrity, respect for difference, capacity for self-awareness, and commitment to social work values
- Experience in human services (paid, internship, or volunteer)
- Application essay
- 3 letters of recommendation
- Admissions interview
- Official TOEFL or IELTS score (for international students whose first language is not English)

**Note: GRE scores are not required.**



# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL POLICY (MSSP)

The MSSP prepares students for policy leadership positions in government, philanthropy, research institutes, nonprofits, and more. Students learn to use policy to increase equality, promote equity, and forge social change.

The MSSP prepares professionals with the knowledge base and analytical skills to participate in policy analysis, creation, and evaluation. Through a 10-course program of study, students learn from faculty policy experts as well as their peers. MSSP graduates are in high demand in governmental and non-governmental policy settings because of their theoretical knowledge and practical skills, gained in part through the 150-hour policy internship. In addition to the core MSSP coursework, students are permitted to take electives in other Schools at Penn, providing students with an interdisciplinary experience.

“What’s exciting about my job is that I am able to help shape policy decisions. Rather than develop a big report at the end of the process, I am identifying issues and relaying them in real time to create a perpetual feedback loop.”

—James Jack, MSSP '14  
Senior Educator Effectiveness  
Analyst, The School District  
of Philadelphia

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Jennifer Prah Ruger, PhD,  
Director, MSSP Program  
jenpr@upenn.edu  
215.746.1330  
[www.sp2.upenn.edu/mssp](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/mssp)

## WHAT IS SOCIAL POLICY?

Social policy addresses social problems, such as economic and educational inequality, racial and health disparities, and other similar problems through policy. As such, social policy initiatives and outcomes actively attend to social issues of equity, equality, and adequacy.

## DEGREE OPTIONS

- Full-time (11-month)
- Part-time (2.5-year)

## CERTIFICATE OPTIONS

- Data Analytics for Social Policy
- Global Human Rights

## DUAL DEGREE OPTIONS

- Bachelor of Arts (University of Pennsylvania submatriculation)
- Juris Doctor (JD)
- Master of Public Administration (MPA)
- Master of Public Health (MPH)
- Master of Social Work (MSW)



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## PROGRAM AUDIENCE

- Early- and mid-career professionals engaged in policy work in various organizational settings
- Social science Bachelor's degree recipients who wish to develop policy skills
- Students pursuing other advanced degrees at Penn who desire a graduate degree in social policy

## POST-DEGREE EMPLOYMENT SITES

American Institutes for Research

Center for American Progress

Common Ground

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)

Delaware Center for Justice

Democratic National Committee

Global Health Corps

Institute for Public Health Innovation

LGBT Elder Initiative

National Conference of State Legislatures

National League of Cities

Office of the Governor of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Education Fund

Stanford Center on Longevity

The Pew Charitable Trusts

University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute

Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice

Vital Voices Global Partnership

White House Fellowships

Wider Opportunities for Women

W.K. Kellogg Foundation



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## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Priority deadline: **March 1st**

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## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A demonstrated record of academic achievement in undergraduate education
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) scores that indicate the requisite analytical and verbal ability
- 3 letters of recommendation (2 academic & 1 professional)
- Application essay
- Writing sample that demonstrates potential for policy analysis work
- Official TOEFL or IELTS scores (for international students whose first language is not English)



# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP (NPL)

The NPL focuses on new approaches and innovative thinking. Our students are collaborative agents of change, addressing long-term challenges in and through nonprofits, social enterprises, international NGOs, and beyond.

The mission of Penn's NPL program is to educate the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs who will help transform nonprofits, social enterprises, international NGOs, educational systems, social service agencies, art and cultural institutions, foundations, and volunteer organizations. The world needs new thinking and innovative approaches to address long-term challenges. Our students lay the foundations for their professional and civic journeys to be collaborative agents of innovation and impact. The NPL program welcomes individuals who are bright, passionate, and energized to be transformative thought leaders, social entrepreneurs, and innovators for social impact.

**"The NPL program was the perfect program for me at the right time. I was looking for an advanced degree that emphasized soft skills as much as hard skills—which the NPL program balanced masterfully."**

**-Sarah Evans, NPL '13  
Director of Development  
and Communications,  
Lifecycle WomanCare**

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Adam Roth-Saks, Associate  
Director, NPL Program  
adamsaks@sp2.upenn.edu  
215.898.1857  
[www.sp2.upenn.edu/npl](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/npl)

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## WHY NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP?

Become part of an outstanding network of social impact leaders; immerse yourself in Philadelphia's vibrant community; learn from internationally recognized faculty and instructors; explore how business, government, and the social sector can work together; gain from your fellow world-class students while focusing on your passions and developing your skills.

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## DEGREE OPTIONS

- Full-time (9-month)
- Part-time (2.5-year)

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## DUAL DEGREE OPTIONS

- Bachelor of Arts (University of Pennsylvania submatriculation)
- Master of Social Work (MSW)



UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

- 4 NPLD core credits from a menu of choices;
- 4 NPLD elective credits from a menu of choices;
- 2 Penn elective credits from any graduate school at the University;
- 180-225 hour leadership practicum.

## PROGRAM AUDIENCE

- Nonprofit professionals seeking skills and leadership building
- Professionals in other sectors seeking a career shift
- Individuals preparing to enter the nonprofit or social impact sector



## POST-DEGREE EMPLOYMENT SITES

ActionAid

American Cancer Society

AthFest Educates

Back on My Feet

Capital One Bank

Catholic Relief Services

Delaware County  
Community Foundation

Habitat for Humanity

Here's My Chance

Lifecycle WomanCare

Microsoft

Patient-Centered Outcomes  
Research Institute

Philadelphia Youth Network

Philadelphia Zoo

RUSH for Literacy

Spark

Teach for America

Toll Public Interest Center

Vision 2020

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## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Priority deadline: **March 1st**

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## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Grade point average (GPA) reflecting strong academic ability
- Competitive scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or on the GMAT or LSAT (preference is for the GRE)
- 3 letters of recommendation from individuals who can speak to an applicant's leadership skills
- Application essay
- Admissions interview (for qualified applicants)
- Official TOEFL or IELTS scores (for international students whose first language is not English)



# PHD IN SOCIAL WELFARE (PHD)

The PhD program develops leaders in academia and research. We foster scholarly energy, collaboration, and creativity and offer a confluence of diverse philosophies and approaches to social work, social welfare research, social policy, social theory, and social justice.

The University of Pennsylvania PhD program in Social Welfare is designed to develop academic leaders who can identify social problems and potential solutions in the U.S. and abroad. Most of our graduates go on to faculty posts in Schools of Social Work and other schools. Some assume positions in government, non-profit organizations, research firms, and think tanks.

Ours is an interdisciplinary program that prepares students to be scholars and researchers. Each year the program enrolls four to six students with a proven record of academic excellence and demonstrated potential to contribute to the field.

**“The interdisciplinary nature of the PhD program really broadened my perspective. I was able to take classes in Political Science, Public Health, and Anthropology. That experience shaped the way I think about criminal justice and incarceration.”**

**-Stacey Barringer, PhD '13  
Assistant Professor, NYU  
Silver School of Social Work**

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

[sp2phd@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:sp2phd@sp2.upenn.edu)  
[www.sp2.upenn.edu/phd](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/phd)

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## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

The program is structured so that students can earn their PhD in four years. In the first two years, students complete their coursework and research apprenticeships. In addition to learning fundamental content and research methodologies at SP2, students can also take courses at Wharton, Law, Sociology, Anthropology – virtually any Department or School at Penn.

The last two years are dedicated to gaining teaching and research experience while completing the dissertation. In addition, interested students can earn a certificate in teaching from Penn’s Center for Teaching and Learning. Upon graduation, the typical student has taught students at the master’s level and has multiple publications.

Each student is supported financially by the School of Social Policy & Practice in the form of tuition, fees, individual health insurance, and a nine-month research and teaching stipend for the 4 years. Funding for summers and study beyond four years is available through research assistantships, graduate fellowships, and teaching assistantships.



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## DEGREE OPTIONS

Full-time work toward the degree is expected. Part-time study is considered only for University of Pennsylvania employees.

## POST-DEGREE EMPLOYMENT SITES

In the past five years, our graduates have gone to:

### Faculty Positions

Boston University,  
School of Social Work

Bryn Athyn College

Chinese University of Hong Kong,  
Department of Social Work

Hebrew University of Jerusalem,  
School of Social Work and Social Welfare

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis,  
School of Public and Environmental Affairs

New York University,  
Silver School of Social Work

Rowan University

Salem State University,  
School of Social Work

University of Haifa,  
School of Social Work

University of Houston,  
Graduate College of Social Work

University of Pennsylvania,  
School of Medicine

University of Toronto,  
School of Social Work

West Chester University

### Research & Other Positions

Philadelphia City Council,  
Director of Human Services & Special Initiatives

University of Pennsylvania  
Student Counseling and Psychological Services

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,  
Office of the Inspector General



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## APPLICATION DEADLINES

The application, statement of purpose, and writing sample must be submitted by **December 15th**. Supplemental materials must be received by **January 15th**.

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## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Master's degree in social work or a social science field
- Transcripts for all graduate and undergraduate programs attended
- Official GRE scores
- 3 letters of recommendation
- Writing sample
- Statement of academic and career goals
- Official TOEFL or IELTS scores (for all international students whose first language is not English)





# DOCTORATE IN CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK (DSW)

The DSW program prepares clinical experts, inspired teachers, and real-world scholars for leadership in advanced social work practice and teaching. Students earn the doctorate in three years through a combination of dynamic campus immersion experiences and interactive distance learning.

Penn's DSW program set the pace. We were the first social work practice doctorate; now we're the most accessible. Our hybrid distance program offers all the advantages of a world class Ivy League learning community in a highly interactive, relational, accessible, and convenient format. Balancing the rigor of doctoral education with the practical considerations of busy working professionals, our students complete the coursework and dissertation simultaneously, earning the degree in three years without career disruption.

"I did not anticipate the tremendous impact the DSW program would have on my professional life. I was introduced to a wonderful network of colleagues, my clinical skills were enhanced, and I had the opportunity to teach. I quickly realized how much I enjoyed teaching and as a result I have pursued a career in academia."

-Bianca Harper, DSW '12  
Assistant Professor,  
University of Southern California,  
School of Social Work

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Jeff Curry, Administrative  
Coordinator, DSW Program  
[dswcoord@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:dswcoord@sp2.upenn.edu)  
215.573.7133  
[www.sp2.upenn.edu/dsw](http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/dsw)



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UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

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## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

The Penn DSW curriculum begins with a two-semester foundation spanning clinical theory, research, and the first stages of the dissertation process. This core engages students in high level learning and scholarship that challenges them to think and write systematically, critically, and creatively about social work theory, practice, and knowledge.

In the final two years of the program the curriculum focuses on the latest advances in social work practice and teaching. Faculty experts from around the world present cutting-edge content on theory-based practice approaches, trauma-informed interventions, organizational and group dynamics, teaching, supervision and leadership, and clinical ethics.

At the end of year three, students produce a published dissertation that positions them as content experts and contributes to the professional practice knowledge base.

## WHY EARN A DOCTORATE IN CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK?

Our graduates are sought after social work doctors—highly trained and respected experts, educators and leaders who engage in fulfilling, rewarding work and make important contributions to the profession.

## POST-DEGREE EMPLOYMENT SITES

Abramson Cancer Center  
*Director of Patient and  
Family Services*

A.J. Drexel Autism Institute  
*Outreach Core Director*

Center for the Study of  
Traumatic Stress  
*Uniformed Services University  
Senior Field Researcher*

City University of New York  
*Assistant Professor*

Marywood University  
*BSW Program Director*

Stockton University  
*Associate Professor*

Temple University  
*Assistant Professor*

University of Pennsylvania  
*Full-time Lecturer*

University of Pittsburgh  
*Child Welfare Resource Center  
Clinical Assistant Professor*

University of Southern California  
*Clinical Assistant Professor*

Widener University  
*Clinical Assistant Professor*



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## APPLICATION DEADLINE

The application deadline is **April 1st**.

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## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Masters degree in social work from an accredited social work program
- Minimum of 2 years post-MSW practice experience
- 3 letters of recommendation (1 academic and at least 1 from a social work supervisor)
- Academic and professional achievements reflecting readiness for advanced practice doctoral study
- Application essay
- Admissions interview (for qualified applicants)

**Note: GRE scores not required.**