Military Concentration

- Time to complete: Two years as a full-time student; three years as a part-time student; nine months for students with advanced standing
- Military Concentration: four hybrid and online courses focused on military culture and policy
- Field placements at agencies that provide services to military personnel, veterans and their families
- Students eligible for GI Bill education benefits
- Classes offered on campus in River Forest and at the University Center of Lake County in Grayslake
- Daytime, evening and a few weekend classes
- All courses are offered online

MSW: Certificates & Endorsements

Focus your studies and build your career around the practice area that means most to you. You can earn one of four high-impact certificates and endorsements alongside your master’s degree—with no additional coursework.

MSW with Military Social Work Concentration

Available on campus and also entirely online, the Military Concentration prepares you to work with current and former military personnel and their families to address a wide range of physical, mental and psychosocial issues. The program works to ensure that service members and their families receive excellent care from providers who understand their distinctive needs. You’ll study innovative, evidence-based treatments for PTSD, anxiety, depression, substance abuse, suicidal ideation and traumatic brain injury. The program for rewarding service in one of the most in-demand sectors of social work, and in a wide range of settings—from military bases and hospitals to veterans’ organizations or private practice.

Gerontology Graduate Certificate in Aging Care

By 2030, one out of every five people living in the United States will be an older adult. The Gerontology Graduate Certificate addresses the need for professionally trained social workers to meet the escalating challenges of an expanding older adult population. In this comprehensive program, you’ll study the biological, physical, psychological, sociological, economic and spiritual aspects of aging. Dominican’s MSW program is one of only 16 in the United States accredited by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) to implement a gerontology certificate program. The program provides excellent career opportunities in many clinical settings, including hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, family social services and retirement communities.

“Dominican prepares you by giving you a deep understanding of the fundamentals of social work as well as experience and knowledge in any different fields beyond your own specialty. You learn to work with families, with individuals, with entire communities. You’re ready for leadership in the social work profession.”

Isaac Lopez
School of Social Work Graduate, Clinical Director, Thrive Counseling Center
Children, youth and families are among the most vulnerable populations in our society. The Certificate in Child Welfare will enable you to qualify for the license you’ll need to work with the thousands of children, youth and families who receive critically needed assistance from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Working alongside leading faculty and expert practitioners, you’ll study the most current methods for promoting child welfare and work directly with at-risk children, adolescents and their families in high-impact field experiences. This program will provide you with the knowledge and skill you need to make a profound difference in the lives of at-risk youth.

**School Social Work Endorsement**

- Time to complete: one to two years as a full-time student; two to three years as a part-time student; nine months for students with advanced standing
- MSW plus School Social Work Endorsement: 60 credit hours, including required fieldwork
- School Social Work Graduate Certificate: 12 credit hours plus fieldwork
- Field placements at a variety of urban and suburban schools
- Classes offered on campus in River Forest and at the University Center of Lake County in Grayslake
- Daytime, evening and a few weekend classes
- Selected courses are offered online

This program prepares you to support the academic and social success of young people by providing high-impact services to students, families and teachers. It provides you with the knowledge and skills you’ll need to obtain a Professional Educator License (PEL) with the endorsement required for social work positions in Illinois public schools (K-12). You’ll study the characteristics of exceptional children, the challenges of working with families, and the subtleties of social work practice in public schools. You’ll work directly with students and families in hands-on field experiences. This program will prepare you to address the intellectual, social and emotional needs of young people at pivotal points in their development.

“Social work is not just about working with clients—it’s about creating systemic change. The knowledge and hands-on experience you gain at Dominican will enable you not only to engage and intervene with individuals and families but also to understand social issues and create change at the community level.”

**Leticia Villarreal Sosa**
School of Social Work Faculty