

ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND FINE ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, AND SOCIAL WORK  
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

# The BSW at Junction, Texas

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## Academic Program Proposal

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Touching Tomorrow

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Program Information

*Name of Institution*

Angelo State University (ASU)

*Name of Proposed Program*

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

*Texas CIP Code of Program*

44.0701.00 09 (Social Work)

*How would the Name of the Program Appear on Student Diplomas*

Bachelor of Social Work

*How would the name of the program appear on student transcripts*

Degree: Bachelor of Social Work  
Major: Social Work

*Administrative Unit(s) Responsible for the Program*

College of Liberal and Fine Arts  
Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work  
Social Work Program

*Proposed Date for Implementation of Program*

Fall 2012 (August, 2012)

*Person to be Contacted for Further Information about Proposed Program*

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Joel L. Carr, Ph.D., LCSW  
Social Work Program Director

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Date

## Program Description

### *Describe How Program Meets NETWORK MOA Definition of “Regional” and “Presence”*

According to the NETWORK MOA, a program meets the definition of “regional” if it is offered in more than one Texas Hill Country site. Accordingly, it is proposed that social work courses, in a face-to-face format, will be offered at the Junction location via a full-time, tenure-track, social work faculty member, employed by ASU, based in Junction, Texas. These same courses would be simultaneously (via interactive television) offered at the Fredericksburg, Marble Falls, and/or San Angelo locations. The same is proposed for face-to-face social work courses originating in San Angelo, Texas; they are proposed to be offered via interactive television to Texas Hill County locations. Moreover, social work courses offered via an online format could be offered to students at ASU, TTU, and the three Texas Hill Country sites depending upon student and program needs.

The NETWORK MOA defines “presence” as face-to-face interaction with a professor at a NETWORK site. Such face-to-face interaction may be met in person or via interactive television. Also, to meet the definition of “presence,” students must meet as a group in NETWORK facilities, or the class may be originated by faculty in the region. To meet the definition of presence, ASU would hire a full-time, tenure-track, social work faculty member (this is in addition to the three full-time, tenure track social work faculty members already employed by ASU), and station this faculty member in Junction, Texas. This faculty member would report to the Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work Department Head via the Social Work Program Director who are both stationed in San Angelo, Texas. Face-to-face courses would be taught in Junction requiring students to

meet as a group at the Junction location as is traditional in face-to-face courses. In addition, these same courses would be offered via interactive television to students gathered as a group in Fredericksburg, Marble Falls, and/or ASU. Moreover, selected face-to-face social work courses at ASU would be offered to students gathered as a group in Fredericksburg, Junction, and/or Marble Falls via interactive television. Lastly, social work faculty from ASU would choose a few class days in the semester to travel to the Texas Hill Country selected locations (i.e., Fredericksburg or Marble Falls) and offer the material presented for that day class at those locations; the class would be offered to the other locations via interactive television. In summary, the regionally offered BSW degree at Junction is an extension of the BSW degree offered at ASU requiring a fourth, full-time, tenure-track, social work faculty member to be added to the existing ASU social work faculty.

*Describe Any Potential Duplication with other NETWORK Programs or Offerings of Regional Institutions*

Texas Tech University (TTU) currently offers a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE; the accrediting organization for social work education) accredited BSW degree, and Angelo State University is schedule to offer the BSW degree starting in the fall 2009; the ASU BSW should go into candidacy for CSWE accreditation in the spring 2010, and be fully accredited by the CSWE sometime in 2012 or 2013 if all goes as planned. Thus far, the social work program director at TTU has expressed little interest in offering online, distance education, or face-to-face course offerings to potential students in the Texas Hill Country. However, the social work faculty at ASU are not opposed to a joint effort between the social work faculty at TTU and ASU to offer the

BSW degree at Junction. Consequently, there does not seem to be any unnecessary duplication between TTU and ASU.

Concerning other regional institutions, Marble Falls, Texas is located approximately 49.62 miles or approximately one hour from the University of Texas at Austin which offers the BSW degree. Also, Texas State University at San Marcus, located in San Marcus, Texas offers the BSW degree in a face-to-face and in an online format; The Marble Falls location is located approximately 73.01 miles or approximately one hour and 15 minutes away from Texas State University at San Marcus. It could be argued that due to the close distances from the Marble Falls location to these other two locations, potential duplication is possible. This may make the cities of Fredericksburg (which is approximately 78.96 or 1.40 hours from the University of Texas at Austin, and 108.9 or 1.45 hours from Texas State University at San Marcus), and Junction in particular (which is approximately 140.39 miles or 2.40 hours from the University of Texas at Austin, 152.60 miles or 2.15 hours from Texas State University at San Marcus, and approximately 114.41 miles or 1.45 hours from the University of Texas at San Antonio which offers the BSW degree), more attractive for a BSW degree offered by ASU in the Texas Hill Country.

*List Program Approvals Obtained and Any Regional Notifications*

Angelo State University's approval to offer the BSW degree with a major in social work by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board was given on January 23, 2009. On June 17, 2008, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges, accepted notification from ASU of the intention to offer the BSW degree, beginning in the fall 2009. The commission stated that the BSW degree is not a

“significant departure from [the] approved curriculum”. It should be noted that if a BSW degree is offered at Junction or Fredericksburg, the CSWE will need to be notified and the approval/accreditation will be necessary. This is a required notification per the CSWE. This cannot be accomplished until the degree offering is established at a NETOWRK site(s) and the first cohort of students are admitted.

*Example Degree Plan with Course Location and Modality***Bachelor of Social Work**  
(120 semester hours)

	Semester Hours
<b>ACADEMIC MAJOR</b>	
Social Work 2307 Introduction to Social Work	3
Social Work 2309 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	3
Social Work 2311 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	3
Social Work 2313 Social Work Practice I	3
Social Work 2315 Social Work Practice II	3
Social Work 3303 Social Welfare Policy and Practice	3
Social Work 3305 Social Work Ethics and Professionalism	3
Social Work 3325 Social Research and Data Analysis	3
Social Work 3327 Human Diversity and Social Inequality	3
Social Work 3345 Social Work Practice III	3
Social Work 4371 Social Work Internship I	3
Social Work 4372 Social Work Internship II	3
Advanced Social Work Elective	3
<b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>	
Biology 1410, 1411, 2423, or 2424	8
Communication 2301	3
English 1301, 1302, and sophomore literature	9
Government 2301 and 2302	6
History 1301 and 1302	6
Mathematics 1302, 1303, 1311, 1312, 1321, 1332, 1361, 1362, 2331, or 2332	3
Physical Activity	1
Visual and Performing Arts (LD Art, Drama, or Music)	3
Computer Literacy (ASCI 1351, COMM 2345, CS 1301, ED 2323, BCIS 1305, JOUR 2345, MUS 2353, or USTD 2323)	3
Modern Languages 2311 and 2312 (also 1301, 1302 if necessary)	6
Humanities (an additional sophomore literature; HIST 2331, 2332; PHIL 2301, 2321, 2311; French 2372, German 2372)	3
Economics 2300, 2301, or 2302	3
Psychology 2301	3
Sociology 2301	3
<b>ELECTIVES</b>	
Advanced Electives	21

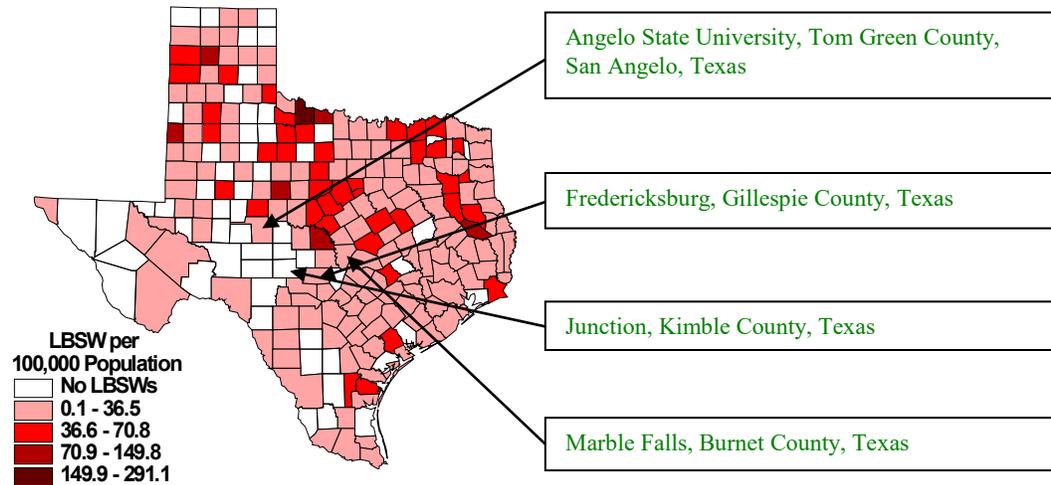
The above plan meets all core curriculum and Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree requirements. The BSW degree with a major in Social Work requires a minimum of 120 semester credit hours, a minimum of 45 advanced (junior and senior level) semester credit hours, a minimum of 30 semester credit hours in residence of which 24 semester hours must be advanced. A minimum of 24 semester hours out of the last 30 semester hours are required in residence. A minor is not required for the BSW degree. Students must take, and pass with a 70 or above, a comprehensive exit examination during their senior year to qualify for graduation with the BSW degree.

### Expected enrollment for the First Three Years and Basis for Projections

Thus far, at the time of this proposal, the BSW program at ASU that is schedule to start in the fall 2009 has been met with much student interest. More specifically, as of April 19, 2009, there are 36 students (the ASU program capacity is 75 students with its current number of faculty) who have demonstrated serious efforts to be a social work major at ASU in the fall 2009, by completing paperwork to be a pre-social work major at present. Most of these students will be admitted into the social work major for fall 2009. With this information as a starting point, social work is a health care profession and a core mental health profession in Texas and in the United States that is in high demand. The Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that social work employment is projected to grow “much faster than average” in the United States, and that “opportunities should be good in rural areas;” for example, West Texas and the Texas Hill Country. Additionally, The Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that there will be a 22 percent increase in employment for social workers between 2006 and 2016.

In Texas, there is a need for BSW level social workers in West Texas, South West Texas, and in other rural areas of Texas such as the Texas Hill Country. Data obtained from the Center for Health Statistics, Health Professions Resource Center, Texas Department of State Health Services in 2006 indicated that there were 15,687 social workers licensed by the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners (across all levels of practice: LBSW, LMSW, LMSW-AP, and LCSW) in Texas. While these social workers are distributed across the state, some 46 counties had no social workers resident. The below map illustrates the distribution of licensed BSWs in Texas. Readers should note that the counties West of the I-35 corridor are in particular need of licensed BSWs.

**Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers  
per 100,000 Population  
Texas 2005**



Prepared By:  
Health Professions Resource Center  
Center for Health Statistics  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
June 12, 2006

Given the employability of social workers in the region, and the general population of the region (based on the 2007 data estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau: Tom Green County, 106,342; Gillespie County, 23,507; Kimble County, 4,461; and Burnet County, 43,689), one could expect approximately 10 BSW students the first year the program opened, 18 students in the second year, and 25 students in the third year. One should note that the ASU Social Work Program cannot exceed a 1:25 faculty to student ratio per CSWE accreditation requirements. Consequently, if the ASU Social Work Program in San Angelo has 75 students, the Texas Hill Country extension of that program cannot exceed 25 students given four full-time social work faculty members.

## Institutional Capacity to Deliver the Program

### *Faculty Resources and Utilization*

The current BSW program at ASU has three full-time, tenure-track faculty members; one full-time secretary; one graduate assistant; and one student assistant. While the faculty positions have been filled, the secretary, graduate assistant, and student assistant positions have not been filled as of April 19, 2009. Nevertheless, to offer the BSW degree in the Texas Hill Country region, and to have a presence in that region, a fourth full-time, tenure-track, social work faculty member will need to be hired by Angelo State University. This faculty member would be assigned to teach a four-and-four per long semester (fall and spring) teaching load, based on a nine month contract, which is consistent with other non-administrative, full-time, social work faculty at Angelo State University.

### *Advising and Recruiting*

Currently, advising of social work students is conducted by the social work program director at Angelo State University. Advising of students from the Texas Hill Country region taking social work courses would be conducted by the social work faculty member located in Junction, Texas. Students from the Fredericksburg and Marble Falls areas could be advised on the telephone, via e-mail, or on a day scheduled for the social work faculty member located in Junction to be in Fredericksburg and Marble Falls.

Recruitment for the program would be accomplished through all ASU social work faculty members, the TTU System, and local social/human service organizations and community colleges. All printed advertisements for the ASU social work program would mention the program's extension locations in Junction, Fredericksburg, and Marble Falls.

Moreover, the ASU University catalog and website, and the TTU system website would also make mention of the social work program offered via the NETWORK locations.

#### Resources Required

##### *Requirement for Face-to-Face Classrooms for First Year and Subsequent Years or Cohorts by NETWORK Site*

For each NETWORK site, the BSW program will require one face-to-face classroom capable of holding approximately 25 students that are also interactive television capable. This requirement is needed for the first year and each subsequent year thereafter. The same need exist for each of the NETWORK sites and at least one classroom located at ASU that is assigned to the Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work. The classroom at each site (although each site may not have the same degree of utilization and the classroom would be certainly shared with other program course offerings throughout the day) would need to be available for the social work programs use for up to four courses per semester given the faculty course load of a four course semester, with each course having an enrollment of at least 10 students.

##### *Requirement for Interactive Television Classrooms for First Year and Subsequent Years or Cohorts by Network Site*

At least one classroom in each NETWORK location (Junction, Fredericksburg, and Marble Falls) would need to be interactive television capable. These classrooms would need to be available for the first year of the program and for each subsequent year the program is offered at that location. The interactive television capability will need to extend to each NETWORK site and to ASU in San Angelo, Texas. Such classrooms will ensure that students from all NETWORK sites can benefit from the instruction offered. For example, if a social work faculty members has a face-to-face class of 10 to 25

students located in Junction, Texas, students in other NETWORK locations (Fredericksburg and/or Marble Falls) and students in ASU could take the class as well, fully able to participate in the classes activities.

*Any Special Facility Requirements*

The social work faculty member located in Junction, Texas would need an office, complete with telephone, computer, printer, office furniture and desk supplies. A copier, fax machine, and access to clerical support is required. The faculty computer will need to be connected via the ASU computer network to the ASU library, RamPort, and ASU e-mail system. Social work faculty will be required to travel to various internship sites to monitor student learning and progress; consequently, funding will need to be considered for travel from ASU to NETWORK site and between NETWORK sites.

*Special Equipment, Software or Other Requirements*

The BSW degree program would require a laboratory room in each NETWORK site location. This room would need to be equipped with office furniture that simulates a social work office (e.g., office furniture, telephone, computer, and other office furnishings), and the room will need to have video and audio recording capability. This laboratory room is required for social work practice courses that are essential in social work education. An audio/visual recording, placed on DVD is used to document student competencies in the social work practice courses.

A second special requirement is that all social work students in each NETWORK site will need access to the ASU electronic library. As a consequence of this requirement, students will need a location to access the electronic library at each NETWORK site. For example, a room with computer terminals, or computer terminals located in the

classrooms are needed. It may be a flawed assumption to assume that all students in this region of Texas will have home computers with an internet connection or adequate access to a computer with an internet connection to access the ASU electronic library. All students enrolled in social work courses will also need unrestricted access to the ASU Porter Henderson Library located on the ASU campus.

Lastly, due to the absolute necessity for CSWE accreditation (to become a licensed social worker in every state, a student must graduate from a CSWE accredited program), there will need to be resources allocated for accreditation fees that include site visits from CSWE accreditation team members.

**Assessment Support Required and Agreement to have Students Participate in a  
Assessment Pertaining to On-Site Program Support Related to Courses and Programs**

Faculty and students would be required to participate in the same course and program evaluation methods used at the ASU Social Work Program. Students would complete the IDEA form for each course, which would include extra items relating to their perception of competency. Individual course projects would be used to measure actual competency in each course. Concerning evaluation of the program itself, a comprehensive final examination (a purchased, validated, examination based on retired state board examination questions) will be utilized. This examination results includes a diagnostic report of curriculum areas based on the performance of the examinee. Individual student reports are averaged per semester, year, and for the program's history indicating the strengths and weaknesses of the social work curriculum. Students could drive to ASU in San Angelo, Texas to take the comprehensive examination, or they could take the examination at a selected NETWORK site.