MSW APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants interested in ECU’s MSW program will need to complete one application through the graduate school, which can be found at: www.ecu.edu/gradschool

Application materials must be RECEIVED by the East Carolina Graduate School Office by January 15th. You are advised to submit all application materials in a timely manner to allow the ECU Graduate School and the MSW Admissions Committee sufficient time to process your application. Applicants will be reviewed only upon receipt of ALL application materials and information.

A completed application must contain the following:
1. East Carolina University Graduate Application, including application fee.
2. Three professional references - The Graduate School requires that individuals submit their references electronically
3. Overall 3.0 GPA from an accredited undergraduate institution
4. Official copies of transcripts from all institutions attended
5. Personal Statement - Response to 3 essay questions on the application (see below for these questions)
6. Professional resume

PERSONAL STATEMENT QUESTIONS
Because social work is a profession concerned with personal growth and social change, it is important in assessing your application, to have your written comments on several issues. As well, your writing ability and potential as a graduate student is assessed in these questions.

1. Discuss the development of your interest in social work and social welfare. Include a discussion of why you have chosen to pursue a MSW degree at this time, your career goals, and your plans following the completion of your degree.

2. Describe your personal assets and areas of weakness that you would bring to the School of Social Work, which are relevant to your professional education, training, and future performance as a social worker.

3. Discuss the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and describe in depth how the code is compatible or incompatible with your personal values and worldview. The Code of Ethics of NASW can be found online at: https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English

LIBERAL ARTS COURSES:
Consistent with the importance ascribed to the liberal arts perspective by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and East Carolina University, applicants must provide evidence of adequate academic preparation. Such preparation must include satisfactory completion (i.e., at least a “C”) of undergraduate course work in each of the following areas: the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and mathematics.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE COMPLETED A BIOLOGY COURSE, A RESEARCH/STATISTICS COURSE PLUS ADDITIONAL LIBERAL ARTS COURSES TO EQUAL 21 SEMESTER HOURS. Use the following guidelines for each content area:

1. In the Natural Sciences, completion of a minimum of 3 credit hours of coursework in Human Biology. Courses that meet the Human Biology requirement include General Biology, Anatomy, Physiology, Reproduction, Biology of Aging, etc.
2. Humanities requirement is documented by completions of a minimum of 6 semester credit hours in English, a foreign language, philosophy, religion, music, art, communication, theatre, government, etc.
3. A minimum of 6 semester credit hours in the Social Sciences, e.g. Psychology, Economics, Political Science, Sociology.
4. At least 3 credit hours in a basic college mathematics, college algebra, or statistics course
5. At least 3 semester hours in statistics or a social science research course with statistics

Given these general guidelines, please review your undergraduate transcript(s) and note on your application which courses meet the requirements for each content area listed above.

If you are accepted, you will be notified of the date by which you must confirm acceptance in order to hold your place. If you are accepted, you are required to attend an orientation meeting hosted by the School of Social Work.

East Carolina University financial aid information may be obtained from the following link: http://www.ecu.edu/financial/