why you belong here

Are you interested in a leadership or administrative role within social services, criminal justice, or non-profit management? Would you enjoy working with agencies that help others achieve their goals? Have you already worked in social services and want a bachelor’s degree that complements your experience? If so, this is the program for you.

At Chatham University, you will not only learn the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for a successful career in social service administration, but you will also be exposed to topics that are central to the University’s mission and that of your professional interests, such as gender and identity and cultural competency.

what you can expect

Our faculty and staff will work closely with you to understand your professional goals and to find electives that meet your interests in social service administration. You can choose an area of specialization, such as criminology or social welfare, by taking electives through related programs within the department or throughout the University.

Our faculty members have enjoyed long and successful careers spanning social work, non-profit management, and justice, and are eager to share their first-hand insights with you. Small class sizes ensure that you get the attention you need thrive here, as your professors help you identify internship opportunities that align with your interests and give you a competitive edge upon graduation.
what you will learn

Chatham University's social service administration program will give you a foundational understanding of social services and social policy. You will learn how non-profit institutions operate, as well as the impact of social policy on these institutions through classes, like Managing Non-Profits, Sociology, and Social Policy and Social Justice.

where it will take you

Internships allow you to apply the skills and knowledge acquired in the classroom to first-hand work experience related to your academic studies and career goals. Social service administration students have interned in a range of settings, including social service agencies, child welfare services, corrections, health care, and fund-raising.

Upon graduation, you will be prepared for graduate study in business, social work, policy, law, counseling, or psychology, among other fields. Or you may choose to start your career by pursuing an entry-level position within a non-profit organization, social welfare, corrections, or human services agencies.

learn more

Read faculty bios and browse course requirements at chatham.edu/ssa.

‘Chatham’s Social Service Administration major focuses on providing students with a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and real-world experience that can translate across many different career paths within social services and its related fields.’

— Deborah Rubin, department chair, social work and criminology

trending now

• As a complement to your social service education, you may consider joining Chatham’s University’s highly active social work club, SWIRL (Social Work is Real Life), which provides opportunities for you to attend local and regional social work conferences.