WHAT DO STUDENTS LEARN?
Chatham’s Bachelor of Social Work degree is a professional major built upon a liberal arts foundation that prepares you for professional social work practice or graduate studies in social work and related fields. As part of our accredited social work curriculum, you will learn how to connect individuals, families, groups, and communities with services to help them function successfully. We focus on teaching you how to help people build on their strengths as they respond to life’s challenges and opportunities. During your senior year, your field placement will give you a closely supervised, valuable, hands-on experience that connects your classroom learning with real-world, on-the-ground social work. You will complete 500 hours of field placement work by the time you graduate.

WHAT DO GRADUATES GO ON TO DO?
Graduates are prepared for graduate study in social work, as well as for beginning professional practice in social services, advocacy and related fields. As a fully accredited program by the Council on Social Work Education, you can receive advanced standing in graduate social work programs across the country.
In addition to a competency-based social work curriculum at Chatham, you will find a faculty who all have professional experience in a variety of settings and bring this experience to the classroom. You will also meet and interact with practicing social workers from the community who serve as guest lecturers and adjunct faculty. Your class sizes will be small, enabling your professors to provide the personalized attention you need to be successful and to help you identify a field placement that aligns with your interests.

Fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, our program offers a unique setting and college experience for those wishing to pursue their bachelor’s in social work in a closely-knit, caring college community.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Obtain academic and career guidance every step of the way from advisors who are faculty with real world experience as practicing social workers.
- Choose to enhance your studies with a minor in criminology, psychology, or public policy.
- Students are immersed in a caring, supportive learning environment that integrates global understanding, sustainability, gender and identity, and civic engagement into all majors.
- Complete a capstone seminar that channels the knowledge you have accumulated into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance.
- Join Chatham University’s social work club, SWIRL (Social Work is Real Life) as a complement to your social work education. The club provides opportunities to participate in activities within Chatham and the Pittsburgh community and to attend local and regional social work conferences.
**SAMPLE COURSES**

**Practice 1: Interviewing and Assessment with Individuals**
This course introduces generalist social work practice, including its philosophy, domains, and values. The role of the practitioner and an overview of the helping process provide the foundation for the study and practice of basic interviewing skills.

**Human Behavior in the Social Environment 1**
This course examines the development of individuals, couples, and families from birth to adolescence within the framework of social work research and theory. Also explored are systems that influence gender, race, ethnicity, social, and economic influences within the context of families, groups, organizations, institutions, and communities.

**Social Welfare: Women and Policy**
This course is designed to examine current issues and policies that impact the lives of women and to explore methods of creating or modifying policies. This course will utilize a comparative policy framework to explore the strengths and weaknesses of current interventions regarding their promotion of social and economic justice.

> www.chatham.edu/socialwork/curriculum.cfm

**INTERNSHIPS**
Students have had field placements at a variety of settings including organizations such as the
- Women’s Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh
- Pittsburgh Action Against Rape
- Community Living and Support Services
- Community Human Services
- Planned Parenthood
- Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging
- Allegheny County Children Youth and Families
- Central Outreach Wellness Center
- Our Clubhouse
- ACLU
- East End Cooperative Ministry
- Gwen’s Girls
- Juvenile Probation
- Cribs for Kids
- Every Child

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
The Maggie Hobbs Social Work Award is an annual monetary award given to a full-time senior majoring in social work based on academic accomplishments; demonstration of social work skills, values, and ethics; and contributions to the social work program, the discipline of social work, and the Chatham University community.
“I am so thankful that I chose Chatham for my BSW. My professors made all the difference — they were encouraging yet challenged me and clearly care about their students. They believed in me even before I began to believe in myself. The support I received at Chatham propelled me towards success quicker than I could have imagined.”

— DANI WILSON ’12, MSW, executive director, Our Clubhouse