Distance Education Program
The Distance Education Program leads to the Master of Social Work with a concentration in clinical social work practice upon completion of 60 credit hours. Students apply specifically to the Distance Education Program, attend part time and complete all program requirements in four years.

The part-time program model permits students to complete the beginning foundation year of the program in two years and the second concentration year in two years, including summers. The Distance Education Program is a hybrid model requiring some mandatory in-person classes, described below.

All Distance Education Program students must complete field internships in assigned community agencies in both the foundation and concentration years of the program. Field internships are offered only in Virginia or the metropolitan area of Washington, D.C.

Identical to the Richmond campus full- and part-time programs, the Distance Education Program curriculum is guided by the principle of providing social and economic justice and human rights in a diverse and multicultural society. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking about theory and social practice applications, evidence-based decision-making, diversity, self-reflection and self-awareness, and ethical integrity.

Curriculum and course sequence
Courses are structured so that students are able to graduate within four years without difficulty if the course schedule is followed. All courses are offered as a combination of online and classroom-based instruction. Students must attend two mandatory in-person classes per semester at VCU; these classes take place on a Saturday. The only other mandatory in-person requirement is the orientation in August of the first year.

Students must complete all of the following foundation and concentration courses:

Foundation courses: Completed in two years (including summers)
SLWK 601 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I
SLWK 602 Policy, Community and Organizational Practice I
SLWK 603 Social Work and Social Justice
SLWK 604 Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families and Groups I
SLWK 605 Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families and Groups II
SLWK 606 Policy, Community and Organizational Practice II
SLWK 609 Foundations of Research in Social Work Practice
SLWK 610  Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SLWK 693  Foundation Field Instruction I
SLWK 694  Foundation Field Instruction II
SLWK 695  Block Foundation Field Instruction (student chooses either SLWK 693-694 or 695)

Concentration courses: Completed in two years (including summers)

SLWK 703  Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Disorders
SLWK 704  Clinical Social Work Practice I
SLWK 705  Clinical Social Work Practice II
SLWK 706  Research for Clinical Social Work Practice I
SLWK 707  Research for Clinical Social Work Practice II
SLWK 710  Concentration Social Policy
SLWK 793  Concentration Field Instruction
SLWK 794  Concentration Field Instruction

Elective course No. 1 (from offerings or as approved by M.S.W. Program director)
Elective course No. 2 (from offerings or as approved by M.S.W. Program director)
SLWK 795 Concentration Block Field Instruction (either SLWK 793-794 or SLWK 795)

Foundation and concentration courses are taken in the following sequence:

First year
Fall  601, 602
Spring  610, 606
Summer  603

Second year
Fall  604, 693
Spring  605, 694
Summer  609 and 695 (instead of 693-694 above)

Third year
Fall  706, 703
Spring  707, 710
Summer  Elective(s)

Fourth year
Fall  704, 793
Spring  705, 794
Summer  Elective(s); and 795 (instead of 793-794 above)
Students may take the courses that are highlighted above in the summer semesters of their choice. For example, students must complete two concentration-year electives, but these can be taken together in the same summer semester or one at a time in subsequent summer semesters.

Also, instead of completing foundation field instruction (693-694) for 14 hours each week in the fall and spring semesters, students can complete the foundation block field course (695) in the summer for 35 hours a week over a 12-week period. The same is true for concentration field instruction (793-794). Instead of completing 21 hours each week in the fall and spring semesters of the program, students can complete the concentration block field course (795) in the summer for 40 hours a week over a 15-week period.

All students will have assigned student services advisers to assist with program curriculum planning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First year</th>
<th>Second year</th>
<th>Third year</th>
<th>Fourth year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>601</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>602</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>703</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>704</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>