Ph.D. in Social Work

Goals and objectives
The Ph.D. program’s specific educational objectives are achieved and demonstrated by our students through required and elective course work, independent study and directed research, a comprehensive exam and a dissertation.

Upon successful completion of the Ph.D. program, graduates will have:

- A critical understanding of multiple paradigms in the philosophy of science and the implications for contemporary research
- Mastery of a range of research methodologies and data analysis strategies, and competence in conducting independent inquiry on issues of importance to the field
- Competence in the analysis and application of a wide range of social, behavioral and practice theories
- An ability to design and propose theoretically and empirically grounded models of social work intervention for coping with personal transitions and challenges, addressing social problems, and promoting equity and social justice
- A critical understanding of the historical place of social work and social welfare in the evolution of social thought and cultural values
- Expertise in a chosen substantive area related to social work, including skills related to dissemination of this knowledge