A History of Innovation

 Ranked among the nation's top ten graduate schools of social work by U.S. News and World Report, and ranked number one in Ohio, the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences has always committed itself to learning from and fostering the best in social work practice and to building social work's knowledge base. Since its founding in 1915 as the nation's first university-affiliated professional graduate school of social work, the Mandel School has been an innovator in professional education, where educators, researchers and practitioners work side-by-side to investigate, study and disseminate knowledge to bridge the gap between the classroom and communities in which social workers practice.

The Mandel School provides students with a solid foundation designed to build core competencies with its innovative Ability-Based Learning Environment, which allows graduates a great degree of flexibility and portability. Students choose concentrations in either Community Practice for Social Change or Direct Practice, which offers specializations in Aging; Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse; Children, Youth and Families; Health; and Mental Health. Certificate programs include gerontology, global health, management and leadership, nonprofit management and school social work. Dual-degree programs enable Mandel School students to obtain their social work degree concurrently with a master's degree in bioethics, business, law, nonprofit management and public health.

Accreditation and Licensure

The Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board of Ohio.

The Master of Science in Social Administration (MSSA), the social work master's degree program (MSW for many other programs), at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, a nationally
recognized professional accrediting association for social work graduate and undergraduate programs.

The Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences’ Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) curriculum is accredited by the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board of Ohio. The accreditation indicates that the AODA curriculum meets the formal master’s degree education requirements for the top level of licensed independent chemical dependency counselors in Ohio.


The Master of Science in Social Administration (MSSA) degree fulfills part of the requirements of social work licensure in fifty (50) states in the United States. For further information about various licensing requirements by state, visit the website of the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) (https://www.aswb.org).

The Master of Nonprofit Organizations (MNO) Degree is accredited by Nonprofit Academic Centers Council (NACC).

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