PhD: Developing Leadership in Social Work Theory, Research, and Teaching
The foundation you need to generate new knowledge on the policies, programs, and practice of social work.

Doctorate in Social Welfare (PhD)
The Mandel School's doctoral program is excellent preparation for careers in social welfare research, policy, and teaching, with a curriculum that emphasizes the creative and evaluative skills necessary for independent inquiry, critical thinking, teaching, and research.

**BECOME KNOWLEDGEABLE AND TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN:**
- Social and behavioral sciences
- Research design, research implementation, statistics, and the philosophy of science
- Theory-building and theories of social welfare
- Methods for application and transmission of knowledge in social welfare and human services to diverse audiences

**FULL AND PART-TIME STUDY OPTIONS**
Both formats are structured to maximize interaction among students and faculty. Requirements in both formats include 43 hours of coursework, passing a qualifying examination, 18 hours of dissertation credits, and completing a dissertation.
- The part-time format accommodates professionals who must maintain their employment commitments but wish to pursue PhD study through the completion of four courses per year.
- Full-time students complete eight courses per year and engage in a research fellowship.
- Funding is available in the form of research and training fellowships, tuition waivers, and subsidized health insurance.

**COMPLETE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND STUDENT PROFILES:**
msass.case.edu/doctorate

**CONTACT:**
Dr. Sonia Minnes, Chair of the Doctoral Program
Associate Professor
Email: sonia.mines@case.edu
Phone: 216.368.2309

"I'm from South Korea and this is my first time living in the United States. The Mandel School is a very warm and supportive academic and professional learning environment."

"The doctoral program is unique and unrivaled in terms of the emphasis on multiple methods of research (quantitative, qualitative, mixed, and systematic review). It is well-organized and hands-on."
FACULTY FOCUSED ON YOU
Having someone believe in you is the most important resource any school can provide – especially when you make the commitment to a doctoral program. Our faculty are, first and foremost, mentors and teachers, committed to doctoral education and dedicated to fostering collaborative relationships to help students grow.

RECORD YEARS FOR RESEARCH
Our diverse faculty are world-renowned for their transformative, cutting-edge research and consistently ranked as the leading scholars in the field of social work. Since 2012, research funding at the Mandel School has increased by 58% and set new records in the school’s 100-year history, reflecting the productivity of our faculty, the caliber of their work, and the impact it is having on individuals, communities, and the social work field.
BEYOND THE MANDEL SCHOOL
You will be part of the vibrant campus of Case Western Reserve University, which will offer interprofessional opportunities with your colleagues in medicine, nursing, management, and other disciplines. You will also be a part of Cleveland, a city with a rich philanthropic history and one of the highest concentrations of community development organizations. It has vibrant neighborhoods, a low cost of living, exceptional food and culture, and terrific opportunities for students in their academic and personal lives.

HOW TO APPLY
We encourage you to apply to the Mandel School. The application form is online: msass.case.edu/applyPhD. There is a $50 nonrefundable application fee. In addition to the application, the following supplemental materials are required:

- Official transcripts of all previous undergraduate and graduate courses taken for credit.
- Your most recent CV or resume.
- Your Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score, taken within the past five years.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- A written personal statement (3-5 pages) that describes and evaluates your professional development, your career goals and how doctoral education is relevant to them, and your area of research interest.
- One example (not exceeding 25 pages) of a recent single-authored or co-authored work of scholarly writing that provides evidence of your capacity to think analytically and critically about a social welfare issue. This can include a published article, book chapter, unpublished research report, term paper written in a graduate level course, or a grant application.

ADMISSION CRITERIA
- A master’s degree from an accredited school of social work or a master’s degree in a related field.
- Practical experience in social welfare.
- Your Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score is an important component in our decision-making process.
- Competency in written and spoken English. Students from non-English speaking countries must submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).
As a doctoral student, I’m a researcher, a national presenter and speaker, an author, and a teacher, all bundled into my identity as a student. All of these opportunities opened to me because I chose to come to the Mandel School.
Think Beyond

As the #9 ranked social work school in the United States and the highest ranked school at Case Western Reserve University, the Mandel School is at the forefront of educating future leaders in social work and nonprofit management. Our mission is to promote social justice and empower communities. Our research is shaping public policy, informing social change, and transforming lives. Our students are talented, compassionate, diverse people who are educated and mentored by world-renowned professors and taught in a rigorous, groundbreaking curriculum that will prepare them to change the world.

If you are thinking about how you want to change the world, think the Mandel School. To find out more or to schedule a visit, go to: msass.case.edu/doctorate