

Desiree Stepteau-Watson

University of Mississippi
Department of Social Work
M.S.W. Program
Format for Applicant Personal and Professional Statement (Autobiographical)

In order to assist us in determining your fit with the social work profession and the University of Mississippi, Department of Social Work, please prepare a carefully written 5 – 10 pages (Use APA format: type-written, double-spaced , 12 pt Times New Roman font, references as required) statement that addresses the following questions:

1. What is your understanding of social work?
2. Describe your commitment to promote social and economic justice.
3. How did your interest in social work develop? What personal, volunteer, and professional experiences or relationships have influenced your interest in this profession?
4. Discuss the personal and intellectual characteristics that will enable you to have successful career in social work. What challenges might you face?
5. What are your career goals? What fields of practice are of interest to you and why? What social welfare programs are of most interest to you and why?
6. What factors impacted your decision to seek graduate education both in general and in particular at the University of Mississippi, Department of Social Work?
7. Graduate education is a very demanding endeavor and requires a major commitment in terms of focus, time and energy. How will you balance the requirements of the program with work and other responsibilities?
8. What qualities do you possess that will make you a successful graduate student? What are your major strengths and areas in which improvements are needed?
9. If there are deficiencies (GPA below 3.0, failed courses, etc.) in your academic record please address them.