

MSW Application Essay
Department of Social Work
University of Mississippi

Choose one of the following topics and write a 5-6 page double-spaced essay on the topic using APA style. Page count does not include the reference page (s).

1. Why is social justice difficult to achieve in a society characterized by cultural pluralism?
2. What role, if any, do you think that race should play in deciding who should be admitted to colleges and universities and why? How important do you think diversity should be on a university campus?
3. Discuss the problems in defining mental illness. Give a recent example from the media that exemplifies the complexity of how mental illness is defined. What messages does this portrayal send to individuals with similar characteristics and to the general public about individuals with these characteristics?
4. How do you think scientific breakthroughs will shape the future of services for persons with mental illness, disabilities, and addictions? How do you think the roles of social workers might change as a result?
5. As the population continues to grow older, what effect do you think this will have on our society? What are the primary societal issues that will affect social work practice? What type of training and skills will social workers need to address these issues and practice with older adults?
6. What do you see as the three major social welfare issues the US is facing during the first decade of the 21st century? What major issues do you think will have the greatest impact on the social work profession? What will your role be in addressing these issues?
7. How do you think our increasingly global society impacts social work as a profession and your life? What should the role of social work be from a global perspective?