Description

Social workers affect change at all levels and move beyond the individual to understand the complex dynamics shaping communities and institutional structures, and devise intervention strategies within these larger systems. To address complex social, economic, and community issues, social workers must devise and support sustainable development practices built upon strong communities and institutions. Sustainable development rests on building capacity at the individual, group, organizational, and societal levels.

The Community, Social and Economic Development (CSED) specialization trains social work graduates to practice domestically and internationally to develop, implement, and evaluate a broad array of sustainable interventions at the community and societal levels.

The CSED specialization is designed to prepare students for advanced social work practice in multifaceted development activities in the US and abroad. Development refers to improving the social and economic resources, opportunities, and choices for individuals through increasing the capacity of economic, political, and social systems that support communities. At the CoSW, specific focal areas may include poverty and inequality, access to education, housing, community building and organizing, economic development, environmental justice, social entrepreneurship, community health, and working across governmental sectors.