

University of Nevada, Reno MSW Program Application Essay Questions

The essays are one of the most important parts of your application. We ask that they reflect your own thinking and analysis while demonstrating your writing skills. These essays should be in accordance with basic APA Style 7th edition.

All four essays combined should not exceed a total of 5-7 pages, not including title and reference pages. Please address all items requested and upload the essays to your application.

- ESSAY I:** The School of Social Work is dedicated to providing excellent graduate education for people committed to creating social change with individuals, families and communities. Discuss in detail a social problem of interest and describe how you might address that issue as a master's level social worker. You should support your discussion with empirical evidence, using citations as appropriate.
- ESSAY II:** Please review the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Work and the mission/goals of the University School of Social Work. Describe why you are seeking a social work degree and how your career goals fit with the mission and values of the social work profession. Additionally, discuss why have you chosen to apply to the UNR School of Social Work specifically. You should support your discussion with empirical evidence, using citations as appropriate.
- ESSAY III:** At the MSW level, social workers are expected to provide leadership at multiple levels of practice. Describe your most significant leadership experience. Discuss the challenges you faced and your impact. What did you learn from this experience about your strengths and weaknesses as a leader?
- ESSAY IV:** The profession of Social Work values the cultural diversity of those we serve (i.e. the individuals, families, and communities). We each bring a unique worldview to these situations that stem from our own culture and life experiences. Discuss an experience or situation that has fundamentally transformed the way you think about someone else's cultural behavior or beliefs.