

BSW Field Education Overview

Overview

The School of Social Work's Field Education Office follows the standards and guidelines of the Council of Social Work Education. BSW Mission Statement states, "The mission of the BSW program is to educate students in generalist social work practice, engage students in scholarly inquiry and community service, and instill the values of the ethical practice, social justice, self-determination, and empowerment while honoring diverse populations. Guided by a strengths perspective of generalist practice, the BSW Program prepares students for practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities and advanced study in social work and other related fields." (<http://www.uncw.edu/swk/html>, retrieved 9/3/14)

Basic Facts about BSW Field Placements

- 16-18 hours a week, usually on Monday, Wednesday, and/or Friday
- Two sequential semesters of field (fall/spring) at the same agency
- 225 hours per semester for a total of 450 hours
- Supported by a weekly academic field seminar for students facilitated by their faculty liaison
- Must include direct practice with client systems of all levels of practice (micro, mezzo, macro)

Field Instructor Roles and Responsibilities

Field instructors must do the following:

- Provide student with a full orientation of the agency.
- Provide a minimum of one hour of supervision each week.
- Collaborate with student to create a learning contract that will assist in the focus of work assignments and learning opportunities consistent with field education goals and CSWE core competencies and sign off on the contract.
- Communicate regularly with the faculty liaison (UNCW faculty assigned to each BSW student) on student's progress, including strengths and concerns in completing assignments to facilitate early supportive interventions.
- Provide appropriate work space for student, including access to a telephone and a place to keep personal items and field materials.
- Complete and submit required documentation such as resumes, signed agency agreements, student mid-term and end-of-semester performance evaluations.

Standards for the Selection of Field Instructors

To qualify to be a field instructor, the agency-based supervisor must have:

- Graduated from an accredited school of social work*
- A minimum of two years practice experience post BSW or MSW graduation.

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- Ability to provide a minimum of one hour per week of professional supervision and on-going consultation.
- A willingness to attend and participate in the School's seminars and workshops.
- Submitted a resume to be kept on file in the Office of Field Education.
- Willingness to interview students interested in an internship to determine the suitable selection of interns.
- Willingness to provide ongoing constructive feedback to the student, with periodic formal written evaluations.

*If the agency-based supervisor is not a social worker, the individual must demonstrate a willingness and ability to support the strengths-based perspective, generalist model of social work practice.

Prospective Field Placements/Agency

For an agency to be considered for a placement, the agency must:

- Demonstrate respect for values and ethics of social work as demonstrated by agency policy, procedure, program design, and service delivery.
- Show a commitment to the provision of diverse learning opportunities.
- Provide work space, privacy for interviewing, telephone access, parking space, and clerical assistance.
- Be willing to accept interns representing differing values and backgrounds, including differences in cultural, ethnic, racial, religious, and sexual orientation, as well as physical challenges, special learning needs, etc.

Examples of BSW Student Tasks in Field

- ❖ Observe, participate in, or conduct interviews/assessments with clients or client systems.
- ❖ Develop and implement treatment goals and plans.
- ❖ Participate in committees and assist in research, program development, evaluations, and special projects or grant writing.