

LEARNING AGENDA
SWK 530/531 & 535/536 – FIELD WORK 1 AND 2
MSW – FOUNDATION

I. Basic Information

- A. Student name
- B. Field placement agency name and address
- C. Field Instructor name, title and telephone number

II. Schedule

- A. Days and hours will spend in the field agency
- B. Beginning date of placement
- C. Estimated ending date of placement

III.A. Objectives for Field Practicum (each objective must be addressed by all students)

Objective 1: To have a working knowledge of the nature of social work as a profession.

- Example Tasks
 - a. Attend twice, with Supervisor, State Task Force on Teen Pregnancy.
 - b. Attend National Association of Social Workers Board meeting once, and one Minnesota Social Services Association conference session
 - c. Read four articles from professional journals and discuss with field work instructor
 - d. Follow one social policy bill at the legislature; share information with staff at staff meeting
 - e. Discuss with other agency personnel the professional organizations and conferences that are important to them

Objective 2. To have a working knowledge of the agency, its programs and its social context.

- Example Tasks
 - a. Attend and participate in student intern orientation sessions, and read all necessary agency information
 - b. Discuss the program areas with appropriate agency staff
 - c. Develop a flow chart of client movement in and out of the agency
 - d. Attend appropriate staff regular advisory committee and agency board meetings at least once

Objective 3. To utilize human behavior and social environment theories, inter-personal communications and relationship skills in a competent manner.

- Example Tasks
 - a. Deliver general casework services to four clients and families in seniors program, discussing process and outcome of work. Present one case in team meeting.
 - b. Co-lead two groups of clients with Field Instructor, and discuss process and outcome of work (teen parenting group and parent education group).
 - c. Present one theory per week and apply to a current agency case with assistance from the Field Instructor.

Objective 4. To develop understanding of the diversity of people by race, gender, sexual orientation, religion/spirituality, ableness and age.

- Example Tasks
 - a. Learn the population served by the agency
 - b. Learn whether and how needs differ
 - c. Determine how the agency addresses differing needs and how clients are served accordingly by the agency

Objective 5. To gain insight into issues of oppression and social justice that affect the clients of the agency and how the agency and staff addresses such issues.

- Example Tasks
- a. Discuss with Field Instructor and other agency staff
 - b. Note what issues are addressed at Staff meetings related to social justice and oppression and what action is taken.

Objective 6. To utilize problem-solving approach in practice and identify ways to evaluate direct practice skills.

- Example Tasks
- a. Use the process steps of the problem-solving method in all modes of social work practice assigned in the agency, and discuss the process with field instructor.
 - b. Bring in Compton/Galaway or Hepworth, Rooney & Larson model to agency. Explain it to Field Instructor and apply to a current case.

Objective 7. To demonstrate understanding and respect for professional behavior.

- Example Tasks
- a. Conduct self in accordance with NASW code of ethics. Bring in the code. Discuss specifics and relate to ethical issues of the agency.
 - b. Account for time and effort, and conduct self in a manner prescribed by the sponsoring agency.
 - c. Interview three other professionals in the agency and compare social work code of ethics with their codes. Discuss with them what it means to be a professional.

Objective 8. To demonstrate increasing self-awareness and maturity in personal areas of professional functioning.

- Example Tasks
- a. Develop initiative and independent work by assuming more responsibility for cases over time.
 - b. Reflect on and discuss values, biases, and attitudes related to practice with Field Instructor. Bring in at least two issues per month.
 - c. Express feelings and ideas related to practice with Field Instructor.
 - d. Attend a conference or rally on an issue that challenges me.

IIIB. Objectives for additional individual professional development by the student:

Objective 1. To develop self-confidence in the field (example objective).

- Example Tasks
- a. Seek out new challenging projects as appropriate.
 - b. State my opinions clearly and be willing to discuss.
 - c. Ask for positive feedback. State clearly what I think I do well. Seek feedback.

Objective 2. To improve my awareness of my values (example objective).

- Example Tasks
- a. Analyze my biases in my journal and in supervision.
 - b. Take two activist stands on something I value (write one letter, attend one rally)

Objective 3. To have a sense of humor and keep my work in perspective.

- Example Tasks
- a. Explore my playful side at work; discuss problems with my Field Instructor and co-workers.
 - b. Recognize my personal struggles and make suggestions for resolutions.

IIIC. Objectives in terms of special skills required by agency (optional):

Objective 1. To carry out all aspects of group work.

- Example a. Recruit group members for teen parents group.
Tasks b. Take responsibility for the physical well-being of group members during field trips.
c. Communicate with group members on an individual basis.
d. Communicate with each family of group members at least once a month.
e. Facilitate (or co-facilitate) group.
f. Increase writing skills in preparation of group reports.
g. Complete all necessary forms under the guidelines of the agency.
h. Develop teaching modules for a repeating ten week sequence.

IV. Field Instruction and Guidance

1. Attend supervisory conferences weekly, on Friday, 9-10 A.M.
2. Share information about individuals and groups with supervisor/other social workers.
3. In cooperation with my supervisor, evaluate individual clients and myself.
4. Attend all-staff meetings and center advisory meetings.
5. Attend in-service training sessions presented by agency on a bi-monthly or monthly basis

Student _____

Date: _____

Field Instructor _____

Date: _____

Approved for the College:

Faculty Field Liaison _____

Date: _____