

# SSWiS LACE

SSWiS is the School of Social Work Information Types System. SSWiS provides students and field personnel access to web-based forms used during a field placement. These forms include the “Learning Agreement & Competency Evaluations” (LACE). The LACE can be accessed with any browser via both desktop and mobile devices.

During the early part of a field placement, field personnel and students complete the **Learning Agreement** portion of the LACE. The Learning Agreement identifies *how* a student is to demonstrate competency at the field placement. At the end of each semester at the field placement, field personnel and students complete a LACE’s **Competency Evaluation** (see the next page), evaluating the student’s demonstrated competence.

## Learning Agreement

Core Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

**Behavior 9.2**  
Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes.

**Behavior 9.2 Activities**

This student demonstrates the above behavior/ability through the following learning activities. If an activity is relevant to this placement, check one or both associated Practice Types. Use the blank text boxes to enter activities pertinent to this placement.

**Provide FI/TS with a copy of the SOWO 510 syllabus. Discuss with FI/TS how you may integrate field learning experiences with classroom assignments.**  
CSWE dimensions: K

Practice Types  
 Direct Practice  
 CMPP

**Discuss with field instructor how cultural differences might affect the research process and the evaluation of practice.**  
CSWE dimensions: K C

Practice Types  
 Direct Practice  
 CMPP

Enter an additional activity here (optional)

Practice Types  
 Direct Practice  
 CMPP

The MSW curriculum requires that each student demonstrates nine Core **Competencies**, from Ethics to Evaluations. Each Competency is defined by a set of **Behaviors**; and, in turn, each Behavior is demonstrated by two or more learning **Activities**. The Learning Agreement tangibly orchestrates the relationship between Competencies, Behaviors and Activities as illustrated in the image to the left.

In the LACE, under each Behavior, the field personnel and student select the activities the student is expected to demonstrate in the field placement. To select an activity, check either or both **Practice Types** associated with (and to the right of) the activity. By default, some activities are required and thus their Practice Types are pre-selected and cannot be unselected. If a desired activity is not already defined in the LACE, new activities can be entered in blank text fields at the bottom of each Behavior page (see image to the left).

The last page of LACE is a **Signatures** page (see image to the right). Here, the student, field personnel and field faculty sign the form when they are done.

When the student signs the Learning Agreement portion of the LACE, the field instructor will be notified by **email**. When the field faculty member signs the Learning Agreement, the Learning Agreement portion will become **locked** and a Competency Evaluation portion will appear (see the next page).

**Learning Agreement Signatures**

When you have **completed** the Learning Agreement portion of this document, please sign below.

When the student signs below, a notification email will be sent to the field instructor. When the field faculty member signs below, the Learning Agreement portion of this document will become read-only. If you subsequently need to update or correct the Learning Agreement, contact your field faculty member who will then need to delete your and their own signatures in order to allow for any changes.

**Emily A-Test-Student**  
student  
email: \_\_\_\_\_

**FRIDA** SIGN

**Frida A-Test-Instructor**  
field instructor  
email: \_\_\_\_\_, phone: (919) 555-1234

**Rebecca Brigham**  
field faculty  
email: brigham@email.unc.edu, phone: (919) 962-6532

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## Competency Evaluation

**SOWO820 Evaluation**  
Use the slider to rate the student's competence for this behavior. The rating should reflect the student's competence relative to where they are in the program (for instance, whether they are in their first or second semester). [more info](#)

**Student Self-Assessment**  
(Average Student SOWO820 rating is 2.88 based on 13 of 44 behaviors.)

check here if this behavior was *not* evaluated this semester

[1] Not Competent [2] Limited Competence [3] Emerging Competence [4] Competent [5] Superior Competency

After a Learning Agreement is signed by the field faculty member, the Competency Evaluation portion of the Learning Agreement will become visible.

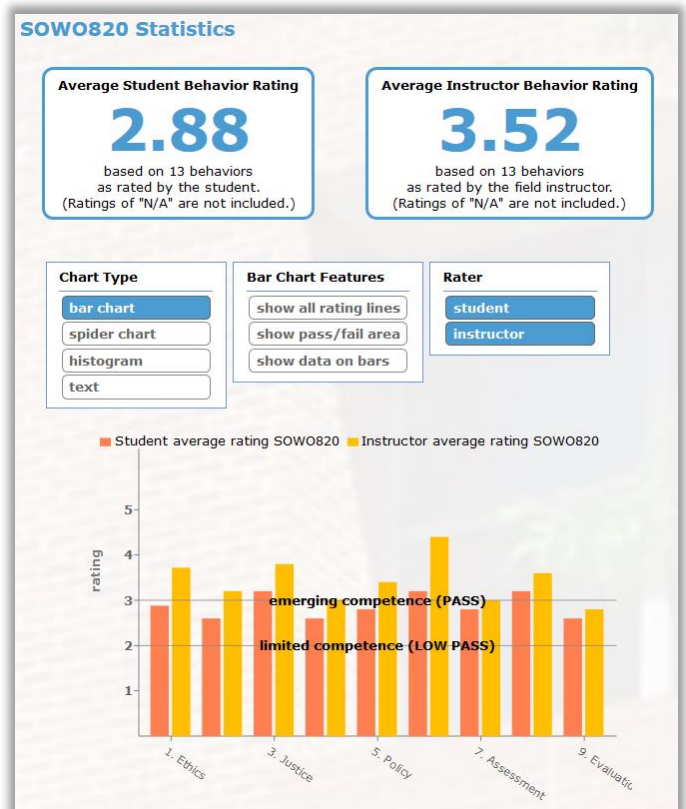
For each Behavior, a student is evaluated using a **slider** (see image to the left). The slider moves along a continuum from “**Not Competent**” (1) to “**Superior Competency**” (5).

Field instructors and students will be provided individual sliders to rate the student. The image to the left shows a typical student slider. Neither the field instructor nor the student will be able to see the other's ratings until both have completed and signed the Competency Evaluation.

As a student and field instructor rate the student's behaviors, a running **average rating** will be visible above the slider. (In the image above, this can be seen below the title, “Student Self-Assessment.”)

For SOWO520 or SOWO820, an average rating *by the field instructor* of “Emerging Competency” (3) or better is needed for the student to receive a grade of **Pass** for the semester. For SOWO521 or SOWO821, an average rating of “Competent” (4) or better is needed for a student to receive a Pass. For more information on grades, see the LACE's Instructions page.

In the LACE, before the Signatures page, with each Competency Evaluation, there will be a **Summary** page (a portion of which can be seen in the image to the right). On the Summary page, the student's and field instructor's *overall* average ratings will be shown numerically (see the top of the image to the right). In addition, a bar chart will show the average rating for each Competency (see the bottom of the image).



At the end of each semester, the placement's field faculty member will assign a grade of Pass, Low Pass or Fail.