Generalist Field Education Placement Orientation
Spring, 2019

Objectives

1. Provide incoming Generalist students basic information about field education
2. Examine the placement planning process for Generalist year
3. Review the role of field seminar in the social work curriculum
Field Education

• Integral component of the MSW curriculum
• Opportunity to:
  • Integrate knowledge, skills, values, critical thinking and judgment learned in classroom (theory → practice)
  • Test & validate professional ethics & values in practice setting
  • Enhance self-awareness & professional use of self

Teamwork

• Field Education Program
• Classroom Faculty
• Agency
• Field Instructor
• Student
• Field Faculty
Who’s who?

- Field faculty – faculty member assigned to supervise your field placement
- Field instructor – the MSW responsible for directing your learning at the agency
- Task supervisor – an additional supervisor involved in your day-to-day activities at the agency
- Faculty advisor – faculty member assigned to guide you academically

Generalist Practice

50% Direct Practice with individuals, groups, and families
50% Community Management Policy Practice
Types of Placements

- General health care & psychiatric hospitals
- County DSS’s and Public Health Departments
- Private non-profit/not-for-profit agencies
- Interpersonal and family violence services
- Substance use treatment facilities
- Schools
- Shelter/Housing Services

Time in Generalist Placement

- 448 hours
- Typically Wednesdays & Thursdays; 16 hours per week
- Some flexibility if it works for both student & agency
- Exceptions must be approved by Director of Field Education
**Placement Policies**

- Criminal Records checks, drug screenings, and/or health screenings
- Transportation
- Placement within 60 mile radius
- Placements in employing agencies
- Placements with family members
- Malpractice insurance

**Placement Planning Guide (PPG)**

- Students do not specialize in methods or fields of practice during the generalist year field placement
- Placement interests
- Additional considerations
- Check the Field Practicum Planning Letter in your welcome packet for the due date for your PPG, which is usually in mid-May.
- Answer all questions in complete sentences
Matching Process

- Telephone interview with field faculty
- Field faculty determine appropriate match based on:
  - Generalist field curriculum objectives
  - Availability of field instructor and agency
  - Student’s interest
- “Matching” email with name of agency & contact information of field instructor

The Interview

- Student calls Field Instructor to arrange an interview
  - Time/location
  - Get directions
- Preparing for the interview
  - Treat this like a job interview—be ready to tell about your experience and talk about your interests and your strengths
  - Dress appropriately
  - Have questions prepared
Matching Process (cont’d)

- Students matched with one agency at a time
- A student must decline that placement prior to being matched elsewhere.
- Student’s are not allowed to contact a prospective field instructor with being formally matched to them.

Generalist Field Seminar

- One credit hour per semester
- SoWo 523 & 524
- You will be assigned to a seminar depending on your where your field placement is
Next Steps

- Complete a Generalist Planning Guide if you have not already done so.
- Upload your resume to the field database.
- Telephone interview with a field faculty:
  - Field faculty will contact you to set up a specific time
  - Will answer all the questions you may have about field placements

Resources

- UNC Field Education Manual
- Field Education Faculty
- SSW Database
  - Student Services
  - Field Education
Accessibility Resources and Services (ARS)

- The University facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications. All accommodations are coordinated through ARS.
- [http://accessibility.unc.edu](http://accessibility.unc.edu)