

MSW Field Practicum Experience

GENERALIST YEAR STUDENTS

- Complete a minimum of 400 hours over two semesters; (200 hours per semester or 14-16 hours avg. weekly)
 - Campus Program student schedule: September - May
 - Online-Blended Program student schedule: May - December
- Receive 1.5 hour weekly supervision by MSW with 2 years post grad experience
 - 1 hour individual supervision and 0.5 hours “on the fly” or in group weekly
- Participate in weekly, faculty-lead field seminar at UMaine to help supervise and direct learning opportunities
- Demonstrate progress towards 9 Social Work Competencies and Generalist Year Behaviors
 - Student creates learning plan and completes weekly progress updates as part of field seminar
 - Supervisor completes Student Progress Evaluation Form at end of each semester (part scaling/part narrative)
- Have a variety of learning opportunities including direct client contact, planning and administration, policy, research projects, community organizing; and more. Generalist students traditionally:
 - Learn about social work ethics in the nature of the practice
 - Work with a variety of client systems including individuals, small groups, families, agencies and communities
 - Learn about the agency through trainings, team meetings, committee meetings, staff meetings and/or board meetings
 - Engage with diverse groups; develop increased cultural awareness and demonstrate cultural humility
 - Advocate for human rights and social, economic and environmental justice at many levels of practice (micro-macro)
 - Under supervision, engage with client systems; interview and assess needs; manage caseloads; co-facilitate meetings and groups; practice general supportive counseling skills; maintain social work documentation
 - Work on administrative planning projects; develop marketing strategies; assist with quality assurance or compliance plans
 - Assist in grant writing process, participate in capital fundraising campaigns, write for social media and agency newsletter
 - Have the opportunity to participate in basic level research, or locate research findings relevant to client base
 - Have the opportunity to assist in the development or implementation of social work policy
 - Participate in program evaluation processes, or help design a survey

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SPECIALIZATION YEAR STUDENTS

- Complete a minimum of 500 hours in an agency in the last year of their program. Two options:
 - September - May (Minimum of 200 hours per semester or 18-20 hours avg. weekly)
 - **OR** Summer Block (May - August, 38-40 hours a week, x 14 weeks)
- Receive 1.5 hour weekly supervision by MSW with 2 years post grad experience
 - 1 hour scheduled individual supervision and 0.5 hours “on the fly” or in group weekly
- Participate in weekly, faculty-lead field seminar at University to help supervise and direct learning opportunities
- Demonstrate progress towards 9 Social Work Competencies and Specialization Year Behaviors
 - Student prepares learning plan and completes weekly progress updates as part of field seminar
 - Supervisor completes Student Progress Evaluation Form at end of each semester (part scaling/part narrative)
- Students can have a variety of learning opportunities including direct client contact; planning and administration; policy; research projects; community organizing; and more. Specialization students traditionally build on the tasks of the generalist year while they:
 - Examine their own ethical practice in the context of the agency, attend ethics committees, present cases at interdisciplinary team meetings, use a variety of technologies, engage in specialized training opportunities
 - Develop psychosocial assessments, implement screening/diagnostic tools used at by the agency, formulate presenting problems, and generate initial treatment recommendations for individuals, families, and groups
 - Under supervision, enact clinical intervention plans for individuals, families, groups, organizations, and/or communities
 - Utilize theoretical frameworks from the social work knowledge-base during ongoing contact with client systems
 - Facilitate team meetings, participate in rounds, attend group clinical supervision
 - Assist in the development of agency policy and/or the evaluation and initiation of state wide policy
 - Conduct basic research for the agency, or disseminate research findings relevant to the agency, create research reports
 - Work on program design; develop marketing strategies; develop quality assurance or compliance plans
 - Lead in grant writing processes, capital fundraising campaigns, outcomes reporting
 - Actively evaluate their own practice through a variety of methods appropriate to the agency setting