October 20th, 2021- 12:00pm

MSW Curriculum Meeting- Sabin Hall 203

Attendees:

* Matthew Vasquez
* Rebecca DIckinson
* Cindy Juby
* Jenny Becker
* Lixia Zhang
* Libby Fry
* Sei-Young Lee
* David Kilmnick
* Katrina Moran
1. Review of 2020-2021 Graduate Research Paper outcomes:
	1. 3 reviewers, 5 papers were reviewed
	2. Goal is to have a 3 or higher
	3. On the 5 outcomes we had 3 above a 3.0, one at a 3.0, and one received a 2.4
		1. Could be improved on what areas: citations (remind students to have 25 citations for the paper), writing mechanics and grammar
	4. What can we do to promote continuous improvement:
		1. Number of references reduced due to COVID-19- inconsistency between the rubric and what the students were instructed.
			1. Requested that Dr. Lee sent the revised changes to the rubric and when the changes were made so that outcomes can be updated.
			2. Dr. Vasquez requested a write up be done by Dr. Lee about what happened in the year and how the rubric was revised.
			3. Change the rubric and the HLC-Communication packet.
		2. Question about the use of references and formatting rather than the outcome measuring the number of references.
		3. Reviewing and updating the rubric will be the component of continuous improvement.
	5. What supports are needed for grammar and writing mechanics:
		1. Dr. Lee stated that she walks through sentence by sentence in the articles to see how these are written, but isn’t sure that this is enough.
		2. Potentially getting communication with the library about the writing lab and supports there
		3. Potentially introduce a writing seminar on APA formatting
		4. In the future we need to have a conversation about what classes are requiring APA assignments and which classes are not.
2. Trauma-Informed Care Specialization
	1. With Dr. Juby stepped down from the director position, Dr. Vasquez is looking at taking it over. With that being said, scheduling needs to be looked at in terms of the reduction of classes he will be able to teach. This warrants a discussion on what we would like to do with the specialization due to the reduction of classes.
		1. We can choose to keep and and continue to examine the specialization each year and restructure it when needed.
			1. Start with the searches: Do we want to advertise for specifically faculty who can specialize in the trauma field.
		2. We can move to a generic specialization:
			1. Generalized Specialization
		3. Create a “new” specialization
			1. Discuss what strengths are and how we would want to restructure the MSW program
	2. Question arose about adding a second specialization and keeping the Trauma-Informed Specialization.
		1. Such as social administration or leadership in social change
			1. Dr. Kilminick suggested a variety of courses to fit into a social administration track.
		2. It was brought up that with the administration track that we had before, there was a lack of student interest and so we may have to flag it as something other than an administrative track.
		3. It was also brought up that we may be losing students because of the trauma-informed track simply because those students who want a more macro track may be turned away by the purely clinical track.
	3. Was suggested that we keep the trauma-informed specialization because it is something that definitely draws students to the university. The suggestion was made that we start to advertise for what we prefer in terms of new faculty.
		1. Do we have the energy and resources to completely reconfigure the program?
	4. Question arose about redesigning practice 2 to incorporate the more macro side of things.
	5. Group agreed that for now we would like to keep the Trauma informed specialization
	6. Scheduling changes (potentially) (for one year):
		1. Next year the online and the in person track will be taking the core courses at the same time
			1. The idea would be that Dr. Dickinson would teach the in person trauma-informed practice classes and Dr. Vasquez would teach the online versions of the classes.
			2. Option 2 would be a negotiation that Dr. Vasquez would be able to teach 2 courses and Dr. Dickinson would teach one class.
			3. Option 3 would be to move the elective option from the summer, to having the Trauma-Informed Practice classes to electives. This would also mean that we would have a new equivalent class of these courses in the fall and spring. (Would have to offer the class simultaneously 3 times)
		2. Suggestion was that we lead with Option 2 and the worst case scenario would be that we end up at option 1.
		3. Suggestion was made that the work to do the new course may be too time consuming and there may not be enough time to develop it by Fall 2022.
3. Where do we see the grad SW program in 5-7 years?
	1. Reinstatement of the foundation MSW Program
		1. Agreed upon by everyone in the group
	2. Development of DSW program
		1. Agreed upon by everyone in the group
	3. Any other specializations/certifications/areas of emphasis?
		1. Clinical building for practicums and specialized trainings in different treatment modalities
		2. Grant writing will be switched to an elective offered in the summer. DSM would be a required course in the fall of 2022.
			1. Suggestion was being made that Trauma informed practice 1 and 2 be combined into one course, and we present that in the spring. DSM class be offered in the fall for background before the licensure exam in the spring.
4. Upcoming Dates of Importance:
	1. 1) NASW Virtual Grad Fair: October 27th-29th
		1. Need coverage on the 29th: Jenny offered help with this
	2. 2) MSW Advanced Standing Information Session: Monday, Nov. 1st