Field Orientation Session
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“Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life.”

- Confucius
Mission of MSW Program

To provide students with a **trauma-informed foundation** that prepares them to identify, evaluate, and address the personal, social, and systemic conditions that perpetuate **individual, family, organizational and community**-based trauma using evidence-informed interventions. Our curriculum is based on the perspective that effective change within this paradigm requires upholding the dignity and worth of the individual, advocating for human rights and social and economic justice, challenging oppression, promoting human relationships, practicing multi-cultural responsiveness, and identifying factors that mitigate the effects of trauma and enhance strengths, competencies, and resilience. Students obtain an in-depth understanding of these values and practices through in-person and online coursework and instruction that promotes critical thinking, self-reflection, and ethical decision making, along with intensive experiential learning through local, state, national, and international field placements.
When do you do Foundation Field?

- Spring 2021: January - May
- 400-hour minimum requirement for approximately 25 hours/week
- CSWE adjustment to 340 hours if needed for approx 22 hrs/wk
Cleared for Field

1. Attend Field Orientation (TODAY!)
2. Resume reviewed by Graduate College (Sept 14 & 15th; **SIGN UP ON GOOGLE DOC**)
3. Meeting with Field Director (Sept 14th & 15; **SIGN UP ON GOOGLE DOC!**)
4. Good academic standing after Fall semester (GPA 3.0; No more than 6 credits with a C; No completes)
   - SW6212 Human Behavior and the Social Environment
   - SW6214 Social Work Practice I
   - SW6216 Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities
   - Elective
5. Secure an approved site for Spring field experience (by Dec 1st)
Explore Field Site Options

1. Intern Placement Tracking (IPT) System
2. Additional resources at www.uni.edu/csbs/socialwork under “Field Instruction”
Requirements During Field

FOR CREDIT

● **Learning Plan** - Developed during the first three weeks of the placement
● **Agency Field Evaluation** - Agency supervisor will complete both rating scale and narrative evaluation at midterm and final term of the field practicum
● **Field Program Evaluation** - Administered by field office
● **Log of Hours** - Signed and submit at the end of the semester

GRADED

● **Summaries of Learning**: Submitted throughout semester to the agency supervisor & faculty liaison
● **Seminar** - Attendance and participation in seminars for a minimum of 12 contact hours over the entire field experience (every other week)
● **Agency Presentation during Seminar** - Presentation about your field practicum
Process for Resolving Field Issues

**Student Issues with Field Placement**
Step 1: Student consults with Agency Instructor/Supervisor
Step 2: Student consults with Faculty Liaison
Step 3: Faculty Liaison consults with Field Director

**Student Issues with Faculty Liaison**
Step 1: Student consults with Faculty Liaison
Step 2: Student consults with Social Work Department Head

**Agency Issues with Student**
Step 1: Agency Instructor/Supervisor consults with Student
Step 2: Agency Instructor/Supervisor consults with Faculty Liaison
Step 3: Faculty Liaison consults with Field Director
91% of the surveyed companies say they use social networking sites to screen potential employees.
69% say they have rejected a candidate based on what they saw on a social networking site.

Source: Mashable, www.reppler.com
Facebook-Twitter-LinkedIn-Google+-Instagram
Other

- Additional costs with Health Care related field placements (handout)
- Typically unpaid (stipend from agency)
- Internships with current employer
- Release of information (send back to Jenny Becker)
Timelines and Deadlines

May 28th - Field Orientation (done!!)
August 1st - Email resume to Jenny Becker
September 14th & 15th (sign up on google doc)
  - 1:1 Resume Review session
  - 1:1 Field Meeting with Jenny Becker
December 1st - Placement secured and contract turned in
January 2020 - Start of Foundation field
May 2020 - End of Foundation field
Looking Ahead ..........

Specialization Field Experience
- 500 Hours (250 in the Fall; 250 in the Spring)
- Completing along with 3 courses
- Credit & Graded components
- Assignments similar to Foundation
- School Social Work Endorsement Pathway
Lessons Learned from Students

- Practice interview skills (remote, face to face) - can do with this with UNI Career Services or Graduate College
- Apply early and cast a wide net
- Actively update resume during internship
- Look for opportunities to network during internship
- Pick a site where you are passionate about the client base

“Where do I intern?”
No wrong answer (diversity, fine tune skills)
Agency Feedback

- Arrive on time and as scheduled
- Appropriate attire
- Notify in advance of day(s) out of the office
- Notify as soon as possible if ill
- Be honest about hours at internship
- Take initiative
- Follow through with assigned tasks
QUESTIONS?