

MSW Foundation 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

The mission of the UNI MSW program is to provide students with a foundation in trauma-informed care (TIC) 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.

When do you do Foundation Field?

- Spring 2022: January - May
- 400-hour minimum requirement for approximately 25 hours/week

Cleared for Field

1. Attend Field Orientation (TODAY!) (Release of information)
2. Resume reviewed by Graduate College (Sept 13 & 14; **SIGN UP ON GOOGLE DOC**)
3. Meeting with Field Director (Sept 13 & 14; **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 (SW, other UNI graduate level elective) OR NA if getting the School Social Work Endorsement (Electives are Summer 2022 and Spring 2023)
5. Secure an approved site for Spring 2022 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

Public Social Networks

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

Placement Policies

- Internship at place of employment BUT different intern experiences & different supervisor
- Typically unpaid but can receive a stipend
- The field program does not grant social work course credit or field hours for life experience or previous social work related experience. The field hours can only be completed through the field instruction course. (*Accreditation Standard 3.1.5*)
- Handout: Hospital/Health care settings

CSWE Adjustments due to COVID

- Hours: adjust down to 340 hours if needed for approx 22 hrs/wk
- Place of Employment: If an approved field partner, could count as internship.

Timelines and Deadlines

April 29th - Field Orientation (done!!)

By August 1st - Email draft resume to Jenny Becker

By September 13th or 14th (sign up on google doc)

- 1:1 Resume Review session with Graduate College
- 1:1 Field Meeting with Jenny Becker

By December 1st - Placement secured, resume & contract emailed to Jenny Becker

January 2022 - Start of Foundation field

May 2022 - End of Foundation field

Looking Ahead.....

Specialization Field Experience

- 500 Hours (250 in the Fall; 250 in the Spring)
- Completing it 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 (diversify, 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?