



Course Syllabus: Field Practicum & Seminar I
College of Health Sciences and Human Services
SOWK 4236 T 8:00-9:50 Centennial Hall 302
Spring 2023 January 17-May 13, 2023

Contact Information

Instructor: Catherine Earley
Office: Centennial Hall #450 F
Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 8:30-11:00, Tuesday 1:30-2:15 or by appointment (Zoom meetings by appointment)
Office phone: **(940) 397-4319**
E-mail: catherine.earley@msutexas.edu

Course Description

This course is designed to integrate the generalist social work foundation knowledge and skills in actual social work settings. Cooperatively run by faculty and students, Field Seminar 4236 is not simply another lecture class. It provides an open forum for the exchange of ideas, feelings, and experiences. It is a vehicle to examine issues and test out practice principles and values. It should also encourage the use of new understanding and the discussion of conflicting messages about theory vs. the "real world." Students should be able to use the seminar to learn to critically assess their field experiences and to give and receive both support and criticism. Discussions in the seminar are confidential unless ethical considerations dictate otherwise.

Field Practicum and Seminar I is structured to be developed by students and faculty to meet the needs of the particular students in field each semester. Participation is therefore essential. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss issues, questions and/or concerns related to agency placement. The seminar provides an opportunity for students to share experiences, to gain feedback on their performance, and to develop strategies for dealing with problems that may arise. Students have the responsibility to help the seminar work. The faculty are resource persons and as such, structure and facilitate discussion and share suggestions.

Course Delivery

This course has been planned as a fully face-to-face course. The class will meet in its regularly scheduled room on all scheduled class days.

Students with health concerns or any symptoms of illness should **communicate with the professor in advance** to evaluate if they may need to attend live classes via zoom. **Students attending by Zoom must appear on video for the entire duration of the class.**

If Midwestern State University campus operations are required to change because of health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is possible course delivery or course format will change. Should that be necessary, students will be advised of the changes.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply critical thinking skills to practice (*Skills*)
2. Adoption of values and ethics to practice (*Values*)
3. Demonstrate the professional use of self- (*Values & Skills*)
4. Understand oppression and discrimination and apply skills that promote social and economic justice- (*Knowledge, Values, Skills, Cognitive & Affective Processes*)
5. Understand the nature of the social work profession and its current structures and issues (*Knowledge*)
6. Apply the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice to both micro and macro levels (*Skills*)
7. Apply bio-psycho-social knowledge within a theoretical framework to practice with systems of all sizes (*Knowledge & Skills*)
8. Evaluate research and apply findings to practice (*Values & Skills*)
9. Commit to continued professional growth (*Values*)
10. Function professionally within an organizational environment (*Values & Skills*)

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Critically assess field experiences and give and receive both support and criticism.
2. To use the values and ethics of the social work profession as a guide for practice.
3. To recognize personal values, characteristics, patterns of interaction, preferences, and culturally influenced beliefs and to understand ways in which personal identity can be used to promote or hinder effective, ethical, social work practice.
4. To show commitment to social justice and non-discrimination in service delivery on behalf of oppressed groups including racial/ethnic minorities, the aged, women, and others who are systematically disadvantaged.

5. To understand the institutional nature of social welfare in our society, the networks by which social services are delivered, and the processes by which social policy and programs are formulated; to assess the need for, and to influence change in, this system to better meet the needs of clients.
6. To demonstrate basic knowledge, understanding, and skill in applying the methods of social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
7. To know and understand the commonalities in human development through the life cycle in addition to variations in development, behavior, and social interaction due to individual and cultural diversity in our pluralistic society.
8. To use the basic approaches and tools of systematic inquiry in a variety of practice settings.
9. To demonstrate continued professional growth through systematic self-evaluation, positive participation in the supervisory process, self-initiated efforts to keep abreast of the expanding social work knowledge base, and affiliation with professional colleagues.
10. To work within a structured delivery system in a manner that simultaneously meets the needs of clients and fulfills the functions of the service system, while holding oneself accountable to the values, standards, and ethics of the profession.

Student Responsibilities

- The student is responsible for the timely submission of all fieldwork assignments. A student who requires special accommodations should contact his/her Faculty Field Liaison (FFL) and agency Field Instructor (FI).
- Attend and participate in school-sponsored student orientations and seminars as listed in the BSW Field Manual and course syllabus.
- Complete all oral and written work related to tasks assigned by the agency Field Instructor including middle and ending phases of a change effort, evaluation of intervention outcomes, termination, referrals, process recordings, and agency-required paperwork.
- Comply with the criteria of Fitness for the Profession as described in the BSW Field Education Manual.
- Actively participate in progress evaluations with the agency Field Instructor and the assigned Faculty Field Liaison.
- Each semester, students must complete 200 internship hours to complete the field course requirement. Students are typically in field placements for a minimum of 16 hours per week for 14 weeks.

Core Competencies	Course Objectives	Assignments
Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior	All the course objectives	All the assignments and class exercises
Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice	All the course objectives	Process recording, practicum paper, field evaluation
Engage Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice	All the course objectives	All the assignments and class exercises
Engage in Practice- Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice	All the course objectives	Process recording, practicum paper, field evaluation
Engage in Policy Practice	1,2,4,5,7, & 8	Practicum paper
Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	All the course objectives	Process recording, practicum paper, field evaluation
Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	All the course objectives	Interdisciplinary Collaboration Event, Process recording, practicum paper, field evaluation
Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	All the course objectives	Interdisciplinary Collaboration Event, Process recording, practicum paper, field evaluation
Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	All the course objectives	Process recording, practicum paper, field evaluation

Midwestern State University Values:

People-Centered – Engage others with respect, empathy, and joy.

Community – Cultivate a diverse and inclusive campus environment.

Integrity – Always do the right thing.

Visionary – Adopt innovative ideas to pioneer new paths.

Connections – Value relationships with broader communities.

Instructional Materials (Required)

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

- **List price: \$31.99** (prices may vary depending on the vendor)

MSU Texas Department of Social Work. (2023). *BSW field education manual*.

National Association of Social Workers. (2021).

<https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>

Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners (2020). Title 22 (examining boards) Texas Administrative Code Part 34, Chapter 781.

<https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>

Instructional Materials (Recommended)

Council on Social Work Education. (2022). *Educational policy and accreditation standards*. <https://www.cswe.org/getmedia/94471c42-13b8-493b-9041-b30f48533d64/2022-EPAS.pdf>

Class Participation

It is expected that students will contribute to the maintenance of a healthy learning environment, by paying attention to lectures, to fellow students' contributions in the class and by not being disruptive in class. It is expected that students actively participate in class discussions and exercises. It is also expected that everyone who shares ideas/views is respectful of others' time and ideas/views. We could agree to disagree, but we ought not to be disagreeable.

Class participation is expected not only at the time of class discussions but also during lectures by raising pertinent questions, by contributing relevant ideas and by sharing relevant examples. Students will be expected to read all the assigned materials prior to class and be prepared to engage in class discussions related to the class topics.

Laptop and Cell Phone regulation

No Photographing, recording, text messaging is allowed without the permission of the instructor. Please turn off or set cell phones on vibrate. Please do not surf the internet or listen to music while in class. Please note that using electronic devices during class time will have an adverse impact on participation grade.

Writing Assistance

Begin drafting papers as early as possible and take advantage of the [Tutoring & Academic Support Programs](#), located off the first floor of the Moffett Library. The MSU TASP Learning Center offers drop-in tutoring support for most general subject areas including but not limited to Writing, Math, Science, Business, and Foreign Languages. Students check in to work one-on-one with a tutor typically for an hour regarding specific concepts.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Grading

Table 1: Student achievement will be evaluated on the basis of written assignments, field work documentation, class participation, and class presentations.

Learning Experiences & Assignments	Weight
Process Recording Paper	10%
Case Study Presentation	10%
Group Observation Presentation	10%
Practicum Paper	10%
Performance in agency setting	40%
Interdisciplinary Communication Event	10%
Class Participation	10%

Table 2: Weighted average will be used to calculate final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80 to 89
F	Less than 80

Field Practicum Grade Policy

A course grade of below a B or an average of below 80% will be considered a failing grade. ***Students must repeat social work courses in which they receive a failing grade.***

Learning Experiences Required

Practicum Learning Contract

The student and the field instructor are asked to develop a written agreement or Practicum Learning Contract to help with the student's personal and professional growth. This document encompasses the expectations of each in relation to teaching and learning objectives, assigned tasks, operating procedures, and issues around illness. Responsibility for negotiating and preparing the Practicum Learning Contract is shared between the assigned field instructor and the student intern. The student is responsible for submitting the Practicum Learning Contract to his/her FFL on the date indicated on the practicum calendar. This learning contract is used as a guideline by the student, the FI, and the FFL in planning field assignments and evaluating performance.

Supervision

Meet weekly with the agency Field Instructor for at least one (1) hour. Individual supervision is required to address specific student learning needs. Attend staff meetings. Meet with other field interns for group supervision if offered. Prepare case presentations.

Content of Field Practice

Students are expected to carry a minimum of 3 cases for the spring semester. Students are strongly encouraged to work with diverse ethnic and cultural groups. Students will be given the opportunity to observe and perform social work duties as part of direct and indirect practice under close supervision.

Weekly Field Seminar

The weekly field seminar led by the FFL will provide a supervised learning experience in a community-based social service agency. Seminars are designed to integrate the knowledge, values, and skills presented in the classroom with the field practicum experience. In each seminar, students will be required to critically assess their own practice skills and discuss the dimensions of social work practice from their emerging professional experiences in the field.

Seminar Topics (class, social work department)

- Mandated reporting laws and protocol—instruction on reporting child abuse and elder abuse as a mandated reporter;
- Process recording as a therapeutic tool;
- Use of supervision in the field internship;
- Code of ethics;
- Ethical Issues;
- Multiple social work roles at the BSW graduate level;
- Diversity and cultural awareness in working with the disenfranchised and marginalized populations.

Interdisciplinary Communication Event (ICE)

ICE is the Interdisciplinary Communication Event for the Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services. The purpose of ICE is to allow students the opportunity to work collaboratively with other disciplines in a format that is similar to what will be encountered within a hospital environment. This will account for 10% of your final grade for this course. You will be required to participate in the event from 7:45am – 1:00pm. If for any reason you are not able to attend the event, you will be required to write a 20-page paper covering the importance of interdisciplinary education within the health sciences and will be graded as the 10% of the final grade in place of the ICE.

Assignments

Evaluations

- Submit mid-semester and semester-end student evaluations that have been jointly reviewed and signed by the student and Field Instructor.
- Submit an Evaluation of the Field Placement Experience to the Faculty Field Liaison at the end of the semester.
- Complete Field Program and Faculty Field Liaison evaluations at the end of the spring semester.

Process recordings

Provide regular process recordings as a learning tool to maximize the benefits of weekly individual supervision. A minimum of one (1) process recording is due during the semester to the Faculty Field Liaison. See additional handout sheet for this assignment (Attachment 1).

As part of their social work practice courses while completing field hours, you are being asked to complete 2 course assignments based on your internship placement. These are 1) Case Study Presentation and 2) Group Observation Presentation.

Brief descriptions of each assignment are given below:

Case Study Presentation

Students will assess their assigned case in the field placement and discuss an intervention plan based on an ecological perspective and strengths-based approach. Students will make an in-class oral case presentation based on their case study. Students will make a presentation in class.

Group Observation Presentation

The assignment is to describe and analyze a group that the students will be observing in their field placement. In their presentation, students will discuss their interpretation of the group dynamics, leadership style, group composition, and group process. Students will make a presentation in class.

Field Agency Timesheets

Submit monthly timesheets to the Faculty Field Liaison.

Practicum Paper

Write a minimum 6-page typed practicum paper due at the end of SOWK 4236 – the spring semester. It will be evaluated on depth of analysis and content. It should describe how you experienced and understood generalist social work practice from a transcultural perspective and your ability to describe the social work principles in your work with individuals, families and/or groups. See additional handout sheet for this assignment (Attachment 2).

Weekly Field Logs / Field Journal

Student documentation of activities performed in agency.

Performance evaluation in agency

A LEARNING CONTRACT which outlines your goals and objectives for your field placement (see materials in D2L) to be developed in consultation with your field instructor. If during the year, you feel you need to re-negotiate this contract, the field instructor should be involved. You will be graded on your progress toward meeting the objectives of your learning contract.

Field Evaluations

- a. Field Supervisor's evaluation of your performance and professional growth.
- b. Your evaluation of your placement supervisor and agency.

200-Hour Minimum

Students must complete a minimum of 200 hours in the Practicum during the semester, and these hours must be verified by the Field Instructor. Completion of these 200 hours must occur no later than the end of week 15.

Seminar Participation and Attendance

Field Practicum and Seminar I is structured to be developed by students and faculty to meet the needs of the particular students in field each semester. Participation is therefore essential. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss issues, questions and/or concerns related to agency placement. The seminar provides an opportunity for students to share experiences, to gain feedback on their performance and to develop strategies for dealing with problems that may arise. Students have the responsibility to help the seminar work. The faculty are resource persons and as such, structure and facilitate discussion and share suggestions. The field seminar is a critical adjunct to the field experience.

Students are mandated to attend a weekly field seminar during the semester. Students absent for lawful or legitimate reasons will be permitted to make-up a seminar in accordance with the make-up policy. The following conditions provide the only acceptable reasons for a student's absence: 1) Illness of the student or an illness in the immediate family which requires the absence of the student from the seminar in which case the student's FFL may require a doctor's statement; 2) A death in the immediate family of the student; and 3) An absence for other reasons may be excused if, in the judgment of the student's FFL, circumstances warrant.

Make-up Policy: The student's FFL will assign the student an alternative assignment. The alternative assignment could be a written report about the missed topic of the field seminar. For example, if the student missed the seminar which addressed the transcultural perspective in his/her field placement work; the FFL may ask the student to write a paper on that topic. Failure to complete a makeup assignment will result in a No Credit grade which means you fail the entire field education course.

Late Work

All assignments must be submitted on time. Students who need additional time to complete assignments must meet with the FFL at least one class session prior to the assignment's due date to discuss the accommodations that need to be made. It is the student's responsibility to request this meeting.

Late work will be penalized ½ letter grade per 24-hour time period. Failure to submit any assignment within 7 calendar days of the due date will result in a failing grade for the assignment. You should get with the instructor as soon as possible if an emergency occurs interfering with your ability to meet a due date.

Make Up Work/Tests

Make up work will only be considered in cases of university excused absences or verifiable emergencies. Students will not be allowed to take make up exams after the original exam has been given. If you cannot take the exam on the required day and time, you must make arrangements in advance to take it PRIOR to the scheduled administration of the exam.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 17-20

Deadline for May graduates to file for graduation: February 20th

Last Day to Drop with a grade of "W:" March 20th

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Social Work Field Practicum Seminar Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all meetings of this class and to arrive before class begins. If unable to attend class, please inform the instructor directly via email or office phone before the class start time. If unable to attend class due to an emergency, please inform the instructor as soon as possible. Students must meet with FFL to request an alternative assignment as allowed by the make-up policy. Please note that ***for each "uninformed class absence" a 0 will be assigned for the class period participation grade. Coming late to class, inattentive or disruptive behavior during class (including inappropriate cellphone or computer use) and leaving early from class will have an adverse impact on attendance and participation grade.***

Each unexcused absence will result in a subtraction of 5 points from the student's final grade at the end of the course.

After three absences the student will be dropped from the class.

For an absence to be excused the ***student must inform the instructor in advance of the reason for the absence*** and provide documentation supporting the need for the class absence.

An absence will be considered officially excused if the student:

- a. Presents a written excuse from the Office of Student Affairs.
- b. Presents a written excuse from a physician.
- c. Presents written documentation of attending a mandatory function (e.g., basketball team, band, etc.).
- d. Obtains permission from the instructor in advance of the absence.

Authorized absences due to required participation in university-sponsored activities must be approved by the college dean or Athletic Director and the Provost. These absences will not count against the student when the student presents a signed letter to the instructor at least two class days prior to the date of the absence. Only prior notification can guarantee lack of penalty for these absences. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange with the instructor to make up all work missed during an authorized absence. Academically related activities (class field trips, attendance at conferences, etc.) which result in absences require the cooperation of individual faculty members. Even though such activities are educational in nature, they do not qualify as university-sponsored activities.

Instructor Class Policies

All students registered for courses in the Social Work Department are expected to adhere to the responsibilities, and behavior as articulated in both the [Student Handbook](#) and the NASW (National Association of Social Workers) [Code of Ethics](#). An essential feature of these codes is a commitment to maintaining intellectual integrity and academic honesty. I generally have a **zero-tolerance policy for cheating or plagiarism**, and violations will result in substantial penalties including a failing grade on the assignment with no make-up opportunity and/or a referral to the Dean of Students.

Repeated **accidental or willful cheating or use of someone else's words, ideas, or evidence without attribution will be met with a failing grade in the course and a referral to the Dean of Students**, regardless of whether the first occurrence was in this course. If you have any doubts or questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Students are expected to display professional decorum at all times. This includes, but is not limited to, respecting classmates and the instructor. In this regard, it is expected that students will not hold side conversations, use cell phones, or engage in other types of unprofessional behaviors once class has begun.

Diversity: It is my intent to present material and activities that are respectful of diversity. It is also my intent that students from all perspectives and diverse backgrounds be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. Your suggestions about how to improve the value of diversity in this course are encouraged and appreciated.

Professional Expectations of Student Behavior

Midwestern State University Department of Social Work is mandated by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) to foster and evaluate professional behavioral development for all students in the social work program. The Department of Social Work also bears a responsibility to the community at large to produce fully trained professional social workers who consciously exhibit the knowledge, values, and skills of the profession of social work. The values of the profession are codified in the NASW Code of Ethics. Given this context, all students in the social work program will be expected to exhibit the following ethical standards of behavior.

1. **Accountability:** Attend class, arrive on time, and return from break in a timely manner.
Participate in group activities and assignments at a comparable level to peers.
Complete work in a timely fashion and according to directions provided.
Come to class prepared, with readings and other homework completed.
2. **Respect:** Treat all your peers, your instructors and all those you come in contact with, with dignity and respect at all times.
Listen while others are speaking.
Give feedback to peers in a constructive manner.
Approach conflict with peers or instructors in a cooperative manner.
Use positive and nonjudgmental language.

3. **Confidentiality:** Treat any personal information that you hear about a peer or an instructor as strictly confidential.
Maintain any information shared in class, dyads or smaller groups within that unit.
Use judgment in self-disclosing information of a very personal nature in the classroom. (Class time should not be used as therapy or treatment. If students feel the need to talk about issues they are struggling with, they may consult with their instructor to receive a referral for counseling.)
Never use names of clients or disclose other identifying information in the classroom.
4. **Competence:** Apply yourself to all your academic pursuits with seriousness and conscientiousness, meeting all deadlines as given by your instructors. Constantly strive to improve your abilities.
Come to class with books, handouts, syllabus, and pens
Seek out appropriate support when having difficulties to ensure success in completing course requirements.
Take responsibility for the quality of completed tests and assignment.
Strive to work toward greater awareness of personal issues that may impede your effectiveness with clients.
5. **Integrity:** Practice honesty with yourself, your peers, and your instructors. Constantly strive to improve your abilities.
Academic: Commit yourself to learning the rules of citing other's work properly.
Do your own work and take credit only for your own work.
Acknowledge areas where improvement is needed.
Accept and benefit from constructive feedback

Submission of Papers: Students will submit their written assignments through D2L. Papers will be subject to plagiarism analysis and will be kept in electronic file for future reference. A student may not submit the same paper, or essentially the same, paper, project, assignment, or finished project to an instructor, which has been submitted to another instructor, unless specifically authorized by both instructors to do so.
6. **Diversity:** Strive to become more open to people, ideas, and creeds that you are not familiar with. Embrace diversity.
Maintain speech free of racism, sexism, ableism, heterosexism, or stereotyping.
Exhibit a willingness to serve diverse groups of persons.
Demonstrate an understanding of how values and culture interact.
7. **Communication:** Strive to improve both verbal and written communication skills as these skills are used heavily in interactions with clients and peers and also with creating client records.
Demonstrate assertive communication with peers and instructors.
Practice positive, constructive, respectful and professional communications skills with peers and instructor: (body language, empathy, listening)

8. **Social Justice:** Strive to deepen your commitment to social justice for all populations at risk.

Demonstrate an understanding of how institutional and personal oppression impede the experience of social justice for individuals and groups.

Strive to learn about methods of empowering populations and enhancing social justice at micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

Consequences of Unacceptable Behavior

The Department of Social Work may terminate a student's participation in the program on the basis of professional non-suitability if the Department's faculty members determine that a student's behavior has constituted a significant violation or pattern of violations of the NASW Code of Ethics, the MSU of Social Work Student Manual, or the MSU Academic Policies and Regulations. Examples of violations that may lead to termination include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Failure to meet or maintain academic grade point requirements as established by the University and the Social Work program.
2. Academic cheating, lying, or plagiarism (turnitin.com will be used to check the originality of the text).
3. Behavior judged to be in violation of the NASW Code of Ethics.
4. Failure to meet generally accepted standards of professional conduct, personal integrity, or emotional stability requisite for professional practice.
5. Inappropriate or disruptive behavior toward colleagues, faculty, or staff (at the department or in the field placement).
6. Consistent failure to demonstrate effective interpersonal skills necessary for forming professional relationships (for example, unable to demonstrate nonjudgmental attitude or unable to allow client self-determination).
7. Documented evidence of criminal activity occurring during the course of study.

For additional university-wide policies and regulations, see the MSU [Undergraduate Catalog](#). This web site contains information on grading, incomplete grades, cheating on exams, plagiarism, and expectations of student behavior.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. Two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process.

Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

Midwestern State University seeks to provide a safe, healthy, pleasant environment for its faculty, staff, and students. To this end, the use of tobacco products, including smoke and smokeless tobacco, and the advertising, sale, free distribution, and discarding of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities and in all university vehicles. The policy extends to faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, and visitors.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

Course Changes

Although much thought, study, and research has gone into designing the course and learning opportunities, often the most significant learning comes in unexpected moments. The instructor cannot predict these times but respond to them. Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

References

- Berg-Weger, M. & Birkenmaier, J. (2000). *The practicum companion for social work: Integrating class and field work*. Allyn & Bacon.
- Gibbs, L. E. (1991). *Scientific reason for social workers*. New York, NY: Macmillian Publishing Co.
- Levy, C. J. (1976). *Social work ethics*. Human Service Press.
- Monette, D., Thomas, S., & DeJong, C. (1990). *Applied social research*. Holt, Rinehart Winston, Inc.
- Rothman, J. C. (2000). *The self-awareness workbook for social workers*. Allyn & Bacon.
- Rothman, J. C. (2000). *Stepping out into the field: A field work manual for social work students*. Allyn & Bacon.
- Royse, D. (1991). *Research methods in social work*. Nelson-Hall Publishers, Inc.
- Sheafer, B.W., Horejsi, C. R., & Horejsi, G. A. (2000). *Techniques and guidelines for social work practice*. (5th ed.). Allyn & Bacon.
- Sundel, S., & Sundel, M. (1980). *Be assertive: A practical guide for human service workers*. Sage.
- Sweitzer, H. F. & King, M. (1999). *The successful internship: Transformation and power*. Brooks/Cole Publishing Co.
- University of Texas at Arlington. *A guide to interviewing*. Office of Counseling and Career Development.

Process Recording (Attachment 1)

A process recording helps in applying theoretical concepts to practice situations. This assignment will help develop an effective means for students to conceptualize and evaluate their practice with clients. Through this assignment, a student will collaborate with his/her FI to identify learning needs and expectations and will track progress toward achievement of educational objectives. Below is a standardized outline for the process recording assignment.

Outline for Process Recording

Content-Narrative	Student Feelings/Thoughts	Supervisor's Comments
-------------------	---------------------------	-----------------------

Instructions for completing this form:

1. Content- Narrative

The recording should first present the actual description of the interaction between the student and others during the interview. The following should be included in this portion of a process recording:

- A description of how the interview began;
- Pertinent factual information and responses of both the client and the student;
- The feeling content of the interview, as it occurs, both on the part of the client and the student.
- A description of any action or nonverbal activities that occurred;
- The social worker's observations and analytical thoughts regarding what has been happening during the interview; and,
- A description of how the interview ended.

2. Students' Feelings

Included in process recordings is an assessment and interpretation of what went on during the interview and some understanding of it. Student may utilize hindsight in thinking through his/her role and use of self in the interview so as to become better involved in a purposeful manner with this client or other client's in future contacts. Students should evaluate their effectiveness as to the helping process and reflect on the use of intervention skills and techniques that were used or not used in specific parts of the interview. Students should also evaluate whether the purpose was accomplished and show how this was done or why it was not.

Relevant Practice Behaviors That Should be reflected in the PROCESS RECORDING

1. How do you demonstrate empathy and other interpersonal skills?
2. How do you collect, organize, and interpret client data?
3. How did you practice personal reflection and self-correction with this client?
4. Were you aware of professional roles and boundaries?
5. How did you demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and communication?
6. Did you use supervision and consultation as needed?
7. Did you recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice?
8. Did you demonstrate effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, communities, organizations, and colleagues?
9. Did you gain sufficient self-awareness to eliminate the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups?
10. Did you view yourself as a learner and engage those with whom you work as informants?

Practicum Paper (Attachment 2)

The purpose of this assignment is to provide an opportunity for the student to describe how they experienced and understood generalist social work practice from a transcultural perspective. The practicum paper also gives the student an opportunity to describe social work principles in working with individuals, families and/or groups. This paper should be at least 6 pages long.

In the practicum paper, the student needs to elaborate on the following areas.

A. Engaging clients in professional relationships.

1. Developing relationships of trust
2. Being non-judgmental
3. Beginning where the client is
4. Moving at the client's pace
5. Maintaining confidentiality
6. Allowing choice and self-determination
7. Making conscious use of professional self

B. Collecting data and making appropriate assessments and plans.

1. Utilizing interviewing techniques to facilitate data collection and client empowerment
2. Utilizing material from other classes (HBSE/Policy) to make proper assessments of client situations
3. Understanding the strengths perspective and developing empowerment strategies

C. Implementing intervention strategies with client systems of all sizes.

1. Describe the intervention plans you implemented which promoted client empowerment
2. Describe how you have evaluated the level of success of your interventions

D. Describing the impact of the field practicum experience.

The student should describe what impact the field practicum experience has had upon his/her future plans for continued professional development. Also included is a description of what the student has learned about social work practice and his/her own level of skill in working with people. The student should describe what he/she believes they need to learn to become a more effective social work practitioner.

Field Practicum & Seminar I Course Schedule

(The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus schedule as needed.)

Week & Dates	Chapters/Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1 January 17 – January 20	Field Practicum & Seminar Course Introduction Values & Ethics	-Proof of insurance - Student field experience weekly report
Week 2 January 21 – 27	Adverse Childhood Experiences	- Weekly report - Field Placement Verification - Master Schedule
Week 3 January 28 – February 3	Process recording as a therapeutic tool	- Weekly report - Learning contract
Week 4 February 4 – 10	Mandated reporting laws and protocol	- Weekly report - Timesheet
Week 5 February 11 – 17	Use of supervision in the field internship	- Weekly report - Process Recording
Week 6 February 18 – 24	Code of Ethics; Ethical Issues	- Weekly report
Week 7 February 25 – March 3	Multiple social work roles at the BSW graduate level	- Weekly report
Week 8 March 4 – 10	Engaging ADEI in practice	- Weekly report - Timesheet

VALUES AND ETHICS:

All values which students have been taught in all of the previous semesters are reviewed in this class. The students have a chance to bring real situations they are experiencing in their field placements for discussion with other students and to evaluate their own feelings as they encounter situations that involve diversity, social and economic justice, populations at risk, etc.

Week & Dates	Chapters	Assignments
Week 9 March 11 – 17	Spring Break	- Weekly report (optional)
Week 10 March 18 – 24	Case Study Presentations	- Weekly report - Case Study
Week 11 March 25 – April 31	Trauma Informed Care	- Weekly report -ICE Code Event March 31st
Week 12 April 1 – 7	Group Observation Presentations	- Weekly report - Timesheet - Group Observation
Week 13 April 8 - 14	Tests & Evaluations	- Weekly report
Week 14 April 15 - 21	Student Selected Topic(s)	- Weekly report - Practicum Paper
Week 15 April 22 - 28	Engage in Policy Practice	- Weekly report
Week 16 April 29 – May 5	Student Selected Topic(s)	- Weekly report - Master Schedule - Final Evaluation - Student Self-Assessment -Final Field Portfolio -Social Work Exit Survey Final assignments due May 2 nd by 5 p.m. **Assignments will not be accepted after 5 p.m.

Final Portfolio:

1. Field Evaluation Face Sheet (Must be signed by the Field Instructor and student)
2. Undergraduate Final Performance Evaluation (completed by Field Instructor)
3. Undergraduate Final Performance Evaluation Signature Page.
4. Student's Evaluation Form of agency
5. Field Placement Time Sheet & Master Schedule (signed by Field Instructor and Student)
6. Weekly Logs

STUDENT COURSE AGREEMENT

Please review the course syllabus. Once you have read and understand the syllabus and all faculty expectations, please sign and return this agreement. Please pay special attention to attendance and late/make-up work policies as well as the Instructor Class Policies and Professional Expectations of Student Behavior sections. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at catherine.earley@msutexas.edu.

This agreement of understanding should be completed only after thoroughly reading the course syllabus. Sign, date & return this document to Professor Earley prior to the second class session.

Semester

Printed Student Name

I have read and understand the syllabus and faculty expectations for this course. I agree to come to class prepared and to participate fully in this course.

Date

Signature