Social Work 8881 MSW Field Work Seminar III – Advanced Year – fall term
School of Social Work
.5 credit
Fall semester
Third of Four Field Seminars for MSW Students

Course Domain and Boundaries

Social Work 8881 MSW Field Work Seminar III is a half (.5) credit seminar held concurrently with SW 8998 Field Work for Social Workers II (4 credits) offered fall semester. Students MUST be enrolled in SW 8998 Field Work for Social Workers II in order to earn credit for this course. SW 8998 requires 225 clock hours per semester be completed in a field placement site arranged by the Office of Field Education. Social Work 8881 MSW Field Work Seminar III facilitates students’ understanding of the learning experience through critical reflection on field and courses. The focus is on advanced application of assessment, intervention, evaluation, knowledge and skills required of students in field placement settings as advanced practitioners. The course helps students reflect on their field experiences and to draw from their course content, all of which help define them as social work professionals.

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<th>COMPETENCIES</th>
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<td>1. Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly</td>
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<td>2. Apply social work principles to guide professional practice</td>
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<td>3. Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments</td>
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<td>4. Engage diversity and difference in practice</td>
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<td>5. Advance human rights and social and economic justice</td>
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<td>6. Engage in research informed practice and practice informed research</td>
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<td>7. Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment</td>
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<td>8. Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services</td>
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<td>9. Respond to contexts that shape practice</td>
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<td>10. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, groups, organizations, and communities</td>
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<td>11. Analyze the impact of the urban context on a range of client systems, including practice implications.</td>
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This course will support students in many ways to:

1. provide opportunities to integrate knowledge, skills and values derived from all classroom and field-based learning;
2. practice in applying critical thinking processes to field practice;
3. inform students about agencies/services in the field placement of their peers;
4. provide opportunities for students to develop/strengthen professional skills of collaboration, consultation, and problem-solving;
5. clarify expectations in field (learning plans, process recordings, and evaluations);
6. provide a forum for student discussion and the reception of feedback from peers and faculty members;
7. provide challenge and support for deepening self-awareness related to professional social work identity – and to align practice accordingly; and
8. continue to develop knowledge and skills relative to application of advanced practice processes within the field experience.

**Performance Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. demonstrate incorporation of social work values and ethics and respect for human diversity while exploring professional development, (1, 2, 4, 5)
2. demonstrate ability to operate effectively within an organizational structure by demonstrating productive communication skills and making productive use of supervision and consultation, (1, 2, 3)
3. recognize and continually evaluate own attitudes toward diversity, including gender, race, religion, ethnic, class, sexual orientation, age, and disability, (1, 4, 5)
4. demonstrate self-awareness, leadership skills and professional use of self in work with populations at risk, in an effort to advance human rights and social/economic justice (1, 2, 4, 5)

5. demonstrate ability to evaluate own practice at multiple levels, apply current research to own practice and evaluation, and examine own agency and practice in light of social policy, (1, 3, 6, 8)

6. demonstrate an understanding of how agency mission, operational policy and procedures, resources, and funding impact upon the delivery of social services, (2, 8, 9)

7. demonstrate ability to perform social work tasks and duties in a way that demonstrates critical thinking and draws on content from all other foundation areas of the curriculum, (3)

8. demonstrate the ability to skillfully carry out assessments and intervention strategies as they apply to the provision of social work services for individuals, families, small groups, organizations and communities based on the best available evidence, (6, 10, 11)

9. demonstrate ability to use organizational knowledge and skills to enhance the service delivery system, perceive plan that would implement changes if needed and present to appropriate personnel, (3, 8, 9)

10. demonstrate an ability to use appropriate oral and written communication skills in organizing and recording necessary client information and completing administrative paperwork requirements, (1, 3, 10)

11. display awareness of personal values congruent and conflicting with the NASW Code of Ethics (1, 2)

Course Requirements

1. Prompt attendance at every seminar session (As arranged)

2. Paper: Written assignment:
   Prepare a brief written description of an ethical dilemma that you have experienced or one that another social worker experienced at your field placement.
   • Interview staff (if not using your own situation) and describe the ethical dilemma
   • Describe the process that you used or think should be used to address this dilemma
   • What section of the NASW Code of Ethics applies to this dilemma
   • How did you address issues of diversity and social justice as part of the response to this dilemma

Class Sessions
Session I
- Introduction and Orientation to the Course - syllabus
- Review Expectation of all parties
- Discussion on Field Assignments: Learning plan, process recording (2-3 to be submitted to assigned faculty advisor), evaluations
- Communication Skills
- Realistic Expectations and Professional behavior and demeanor

Session II
- Effective use of supervision
  - Student and FI relationships/feelings
- Expectations in field
  - ID questions to pose to open this discussion
  - Role of professional social worker – responsibility

Session III
- Group Discussion and Problem-Solving – “Taking on the Role of the Client”
- Self Care Skills, reflecting feelings and integrating skills
- Oral reports on case/project

Session IV
- Performance Achievement Rating forms
- Second semester preparation/transition

Role of Student and Instructor

Students are expected to attend all class sessions; absences from class may affect the student's grade, particularly excessive absences and tardiness. For further details about the role of a student, see the University’s “Statement of Obligations of Faculty and to the Instructional Process” in the Wayne State University Graduate Bulletin.

Two or more absences will result in a student being asked to withdraw from the course and may impact student standing in the MSW program. Students are expected to arrive for class on time and stay until the end of the class session. Students are expected to be prepared at class time for discussions based on assigned readings as class participation enhances the learning experience. Assignments must be received by the identified day.

As a courtesy to classmates and the instructor, the use of electronic communication devices and indulging in disruptive or rude behaviors will not be accepted.

Academic honesty is expected therefore, all submitted work must be original. The presentation of another’s words or ideas as one’s own, without giving credit to the source with a properly noted citation, is regarded as plagiarism. Any work that is submitted in this class found to contain portions that are plagiarized will receive a ZERO.
Members of the class, including the instructor, will request confidentiality of others as not to repeat or share personal, professional, or assignment related issues discussed or disclosed in class.

**Grades**

Grades for Social Work 8881 Field Work Seminar III:

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<tr>
<th>Grade distribution range</th>
<th>100-95 A</th>
<th>94 - 90 A-</th>
<th>89-87 B+</th>
<th>86-83 B</th>
<th>82-80 B-</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77-79 C +</td>
<td>70-76 C</td>
<td>F</td>
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Assignments and grades:

- **Attendance** 32 points
  - Two or more absences will result in a student being asked to withdraw from the course and may impact student standing in the MSW program.
  - One absence will result in loss of 15 points
  - Students who arrive late or leave early will lose 5 points for each occasion after the first occasion
  - Note: At instructor discretion, student may be allowed an optional make up assignment (i.e., a 3-5 page paper with minimum of 3 sources and using APA format focusing on topic covered on session missed OR another assignment identified by the instructor) for a missed class. Students who elect this option and successfully complete the make up assignment will receive the points missed for attendance but not participation; thus, the highest score they may receive is 92 assuming they have full credit for all other sessions and assignments. Students who miss a second session and who did a first make-up will not have an option for a second make-up – these students would lose the 20 points for the second missed session (12 for attendance and 8 for participation) and may potentially have 72 points assuming they have full credit for all other sessions (and points from any make up work from first missed session). **Students who miss two classes and do no make-up work should drop the class.**

- **Participation** 32 points
  - Students are expected to participate in discussion and be actively engaged when instructor and other students are speaking/presenting

- **Paper** 36 points
  - Paper will be graded based on content covered (see assignment description above), clarity and grammar.
Being a responsible student in a seminar entails regular class attendance and active class participation with consideration for others. When students participate actively in class discussions, learning is enhanced. To be able to participate actively and with relevance to the course subject matter, it is important that you complete assignments prior to each class session. It is the student’s responsibility, whether present or absent, to keep abreast of assignments and class discussion.

Textbooks

*Required* (All students will be able to download the manual from the school’s web site)