

**WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY**  

---

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**  
**MASTER SYLLABUS**

**SW 8200 Seminar for Field Instructors**

2 credit hours

Course meeting times: See attached academic year schedule for date and time.

Locations: WSU Campus: The School of Social Work at Thompson Home,  
Rm 150  
At agency location and Macomb University Center by arrangement

**I. Course Domain and Boundaries**

This course is a seminar for new field instructors. It is offered as a non-credit course or for credit. Participants who wish to earn credit must register with the University and arrange for assignments with the instructor. Concepts include the social worker as educator in agency settings, the adult learner, designing learning experiences, use of resources, and continuum of class and field education.

**II. Specific Knowledge and Skill Objectives**

Knowledge Objectives:

- Characteristics of the adult learner
- Various learning styles
- Contracting for educational goals/Developing a learning plan
- Assessment of the learner's stage of intellectual and emotional maturity
- Process of evaluating performance
- Stages of student development
- Responsibility as a gatekeeper for the profession

Skill Objectives:

- To identify the characteristics of the learner in his/her setting
- To identify student and instructor learning styles
- To assess the student's educational needs
- To prepare a learning plan with the student, in consultation with the faculty advisor
- To engage the student in the learning process and in self-evaluation

To complete a formal written evaluation of student field work performance  
To distinguish between typical problems in learning and behaviors which may warrant termination from professional education  
To guide the student successfully through the field education process

### **III. Performance Criteria**

The seminar participants are expected to demonstrate the knowledge and skill objectives through seminar session discussions and in interactions with students and faculty advisors.

### **IV. Text and Required Materials**

None are required. Recommended Text: *Teaching the Helping Skills, A Field Instructor's Guide* by Lawrence Shulman. A copy of the *WSUSSW Field Education Manual* is distributed. Content and theme related materials are distributed at each seminar session.

### **V. Organization of the Course**

This is a seminar for experienced social workers who are new to the role and task of field instruction. At each session concepts are presented both in written material and brief lecture. Participants are engaged through structured exercises and written material and brief lecture. Participants are engaged through structured exercises and dialogue to apply the material to the various educational levels and their individual student(s).

### **VI. Brief Course Outline**

Seminar sessions are held monthly during the Fall and Winter terms, from August through November and January through March. A luncheon meeting/reception is scheduled in May. A certificate of attendance is awarded to field instructors who complete the course. Themes for sessions are as follows:

1. Structure of the WSU School of Social Work and it's programs – August
2. Beginnings and the adult learner – September
3. The gatekeeper task/evaluation – October
4. Evaluating student performance – November
5. Educational challenges, beginning again – January
6. Teaching termination – February
7. Skills of field instruction in the ending phase, reflections on becoming a teacher – March

## **VII. Brief Field Education Bibliography:**

- Alle-Corliss, L., Alle-Corliss, R. (1998). *Human Service Agencies, An Orientation to Fieldwork*. CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Baird, B. N. (1999). *The Internship, Practicum, and Field Placement Handbook, A Guide for the Helping Professions*. NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Bender, S., & Messner, E. (2003). *Becoming a therapist : What do I say, and why?*. New York: The Guilford Press.
- Cocrane, S. F., Hanley, M. M. (1999). *Learning Through Field, A Developmental Approach*. MA: Allyn & Bacon.
- Hendricks, C. O., Finch, J. B., & Franks, C. L. (2005). *Learning to teach teaching to learn*. Alexandria: Council on Social Work Education.
- Mama, R., & Ward, K. (2006). *Breaking out of the box: Adventure-based field instruction*. Chicago: Lyceum Books.
- McCartt-Hess, P., Mullen, E.J., Editors (1994). *Practitioner-Researcher Partnerships, Building*
- Royse, D., Dhooper, S., & Rompf, E. (1998). *Field Instruction: A Guide for Social Work Students*. NY: Longman.
- Shulman, L. (1994). *Teaching the Helping Skills, A Field Instructor's Guide*. VA: Council on Social Work Education.