



LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE

SW 483: Field Instruction I 4 Semester Hours Term: Fall 2022

Social Work Program
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Office Hours: Friday 11:00 – noon, and by appointment.

Social Work Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Social Work program at Lewis-Clark State College is to prepare students for entry-level generalist practice within their chosen community. Our program is dedicated to meeting students' needs by providing in-person and online delivery options to promote success for all students. We are committed to the preparation of professional Social Workers by enhancing cognitive and affective processes, and instilling knowledge, skills, and values to serve the needs of individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations.

The Program relies on a liberal arts foundation and draws on person-in-environment and strengths-based perspectives. Through courses, internships, and student service activities the program prepares graduates to:

- Provide competent services to promote social and economic justice and advocate for human rights.
- Acknowledge the importance of human relationships and value the dignity and worth of the person.
- Practice respectfully with diverse populations, understanding the importance of enhancing the quality of life for all persons, locally and globally.
- Practice from a set of ethical principles inherent to the Social Work profession, including the recognition that professional development is a life-long learning process.
- Practice with integrity as professional Social Workers.
- Engage in meaningful scientific inquiry and program evaluation.

(Revised February 2022)

Introduction and overview

Course Description - Guided by a learning contract, Field Education I is a supervised learning experience enabling the student to apply learned techniques, theories, and professional values from social work foundation courses within an agency setting. Field Education I focuses on supervised social work practice in a human service agency. Enrollment is limited to students admitted to the BSW Program. Graded P/F only. Pre-requisite: SW341.

This course facilitates the student's development toward entry level generalist practice by providing experiential learning. A total of 200 hours of field experience is required to successfully complete SW-483. Although specific experiences of students will differ somewhat depending on their particular agency setting, all students will focus on the skills of professional practice. Field instruction involves direct instruction offered by an agency based field instructor. Therefore, the specific learning experiences offered to students will be tailored somewhat to the resources of the agency as well as the needs of the student.

Responsibilities of the social work student:

Please read the [Field Education Manual](#). Explicit responsibilities and related instructions are found in the Field Instruction Manual. If there are any questions about your internship, please address them immediately. **As your Field Liaison it is my responsibility to help you address any concerns about your internship or your work with your Agency Field Instructor – don't hesitate to discuss your internship with me.**

Purpose of the course in the curriculum

The profession of social work has long recognized the importance of providing instruction in the field which includes an application of the skills and theories taught in the classroom. This course provides students an opportunity to practice professional social work in a controlled and planned setting.

EPAS competencies and core objectives

The Council on Social Work Education sets educational standards for all accredited social work programs. The 2015 Educational and Policy Accreditation Standards (EPAS) established 9 Core Competencies that social work students are expected to meet upon graduation from an accredited BSW Program. As a result of the focus on competency-based education, the faculty has identified within the LCSC curriculum where the Core Competencies and Practice Behaviors are addressed and measured. In senior seminar, during the course of the full year, students will demonstrate an understanding of each of the core competencies as outlined below. Please note that the Practice Behaviors are linked to the Course Objectives and Assignments.

2015 Social Work Competencies

- ◆ Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior. Social Workers:

- make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to context (1.1);
 - use reflections and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations (1.2);
 - demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior; appearance; and oral, written, and electronic communication (1.3);
 - use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes (1.4); and
 - use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior (1.5).
- ◆ Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in practice. Social Workers:
- apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels (2.1);
 - present themselves as learners and engage clients and constituencies as expert of their own experiences (2.2); and
 - apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies (2.3).
- ◆ Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice. Social workers:
- apply their understanding of social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights at the individual and system levels (3.1); and
 - engage in practices that advance social, economic, and environmental justice (3.2).
- ◆ Competency 4: Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice. Social workers:
- use practice experience and theory to inform scientific inquiry and research (4.1);
 - apply critical thinking to engage in analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methods and research findings (4.2); and
 - use and translate research evidence to inform and improve practice, policy, and service delivery (4.3).
- ◆ Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice. Social workers:
- identify social policy at the local, state, and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services (5.1);
 - assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery of and access to social services (5.2); and
 - apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice (5.3).
- ◆ Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities. Social workers:
- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies (6.1); and
 - use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies (6.2).

- ◆ Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities. Social workers:
 - collect and organize data, and apply critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies (7.1);
 - apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the analysis of assessment data from clients and constituencies (7.2);
 - develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies (7.3); and
 - select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies (7.4).
- ◆ Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities. Social workers:
 - apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in interventions with clients and constituencies (8.1);
 - use inter-professional collaboration as appropriate to achieve beneficial practice outcomes (8.2);
 - negotiate, mediate, and advocate with and on behalf of diverse clients and constituencies (8.3); and
 - facilitate effective transitions and endings that advance mutually agreed-on goals (8.4).
- ◆ Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities. Social workers:
 - select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes (9.1);
 - apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes (9.2);
 - critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate intervention and program processes and outcomes (9.3); andapply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels (9.4).

Texts and Required Reading
[The Field Instruction Manual](#)

NASW. (2017) [Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers](#). Or may be purchased from SOSW for \$5.00.

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association. (6th Ed.)*. Washington, D.C.: Author.

Teaching Methods/Class Climate

This course integrates the knowledge base and learning experiences of the total social work program. The course is taught primarily in tutorial fashion. Students in a professional program should conduct themselves as professionals. It is not acceptable to be late for field instruction except in unusual circumstances.

Shared Client and Agency Information

In the classroom, students and professors will occasionally discuss clients and agencies. In these discussions, it is expected that information about clients and agencies should be disguised or eliminated if clients could be identified and that this information is to be held in confidence within the bounds of the Code of Ethics. You must disguise the identity of clients in written assignments including changing the name of the client.

Class Grading Procedures

The Field Instruction grade will be Pass or Fail. The Agency Field Instructor will provide a suggested grade to the Field Liaison who will make the final decision of the student's earned grade. A student who fails the course will need to retake SW483.

Documentation

Time Sheets are due the first week of the following month submitted electronically on Google Drive. Other documentation as requested on Google Drive or in seminar.

Final Examination Policy

A final exam will not be given.