

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



SAULT
COLLEGE
Sault College

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Fieldwork for Social Service Worker III
CODE NO.: SSW210 **SEMESTER:** 4
PROGRAM: Social Services Worker Program
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DATE: Jan/2012 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Jan/2011

APPROVED:

DEAN

DATE

TOTAL CREDITS: 24
PREREQUISITE(S): SSW200 & SSW202
COREQUISITE(S): SSW214
HOURS/WEEK: 21 hours per week for full semester

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In this outline:

"Student" refers to the College S.S.W. student

"Client" refers to the recipient of service - this may be a "client" in a children's service setting or a "student" in a school setting or a "family" in a family services setting, or it may have a broader application in a community development setting

"Fieldwork Supervisor"

refers to the person assigned by the placement site to be the S.S.W. student's on-site supervisor

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is the practicum for the Social Services Worker Program. Students will be placed in a community setting where, under supervision, they will carry out social service work duties as defined by the student, the agency supervisor and the program faculty. The goal of fieldwork is to provide the students the opportunity to apply the knowledge, skills and values needed to carry out the role of Social Service Worker.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Demonstrate sound and effective interpersonal skills that promote effective working and helping relationships.

Potential Elements of the performance:

- a. Establishes and sustains working relationships with consumers, staff, and external community partners.
 - b. Maintain professional boundaries with clients and colleagues
 - c. Works collaboratively to clarify SSW role and responsibilities within the setting and fulfils them in a professional manner
 - d. Functions effectively as a member of a team
 - e. Demonstrates competency in various methods of communication
 - f. Demonstrate entry level SSW skill level
2. Demonstrate the integration of social work knowledge, principles, and values from theory to practice.

Potential Elements of the performance:

- a. Develop placement-learning goals related to duties assigned and SSW standard learning goal expectations
- b. Apply agency policies and practices related to duties assigned
- c. Apply previously/currently-studied knowledge and skills to helping situations as assigned by agency
- d. Contribute to agency work-team/staff meetings
- e. Complete reports for agency, including client progress and planning reports, and others as required
- f. Demonstrate expected entry level social service work skills

3. Perform ongoing self-assessment and self-care to promote awareness and enhance professional competence.

Potential Elements of the performance:

- a. Establish reasonable and realistic personal and professional goals for oneself to enhance work performance
 - b. Access and utilize resources and self-care strategies to enhance personal growth
 - c. Act in accordance with ethical and professional standards
 - d. Apply organizational and time-management skills
 - e. Utilize agency supervision effectively
 - f. Evaluate own performance using College reporting formats and evaluations.
4. Identify and use professional development resources, strategies and activities that promote professional growth.

Potential Elements of the performance:

- a. Seek and utilize supervision/consultation as necessary and appropriate
- b. Determine current skills and knowledge
- c. Demonstrate an increased understanding and knowledge of self in relation to the helping process
- d. Apply theoretical knowledge, skills, and models of intervention to their helping relationships.
- e. Evaluate the effectiveness of their interventions and demonstrate initiative for further professional development

III. REQUIREMENTS:

Field Work is conducted in an individualized learning mode consistent with the SSW program vocational outcomes. The route each student takes may vary depending upon the fieldwork setting, however each student is responsible to demonstrate social service worker knowledge and skill development consistent with the SSW program requirements and relative to the placement agency circumstances.

- (a) Students are responsible to regularly review the SSW Standardized Learning Contract and engage in learning activities/tasks at fieldwork that promote professional development and skill acquisition at the graduating level. The student, the professor, and the fieldwork supervisor will strategize and develop placement work assignments, which will provide opportunities for the students to reach their objectives. These assignments are monitored and may be modified throughout the placement.
- (b) The student, the professor, and the fieldwork supervisor will monitor the student progress with learning activities. Students must maintain a record of their activities, experiences and progress using the Standardized Learning Contract format. Students must submit Learning Contract Progress Report and **achieve a satisfactory grade** in order to meet course requirements. Professor will provide instructions in class.
- (c) Students must satisfactorily complete two Fieldwork Reflection Reports demonstrating critical reflection and knowledge expected at a graduating level.
- (d) Students will be required to maintain and submit time sheets. These are signed by the field supervisor and submitted at the end of each month.
- (e) There may be additional reporting and monitoring requirements for individual students, as assigned by the individual placement and/or by the College professor.

- (f) Students must maintain regular communication with designated fieldwork faculty regarding their fieldwork experience, actively identify concerns/barriers and engage in effective solution/problem-solving process.
- (g) Student must maintain the attendance requirement in the co-requisite course, SSW214 to continue in fieldwork.
- (h) Students are required to be familiar with and abide by the SSW Program Field Placement Manual policies and procedures. Non-compliance with relevant fieldwork expectations and/or policies will result in placement review and/or termination in accordance with procedures detailed in the SSW Field placement manual.
- (i) Students are required to complete a minimum of **287** hours of fieldwork. Students are required to attend all placement days scheduled and arrive on time.
- (j) Expectations regarding absences:
 - Students who are absent due to illness or exceptional circumstances are required to contact both the fieldwork supervisor and faculty in advance when feasible and/or on the morning of their absence.
 - An email must be forwarded within one week of day missed to the designated faculty detailing an approved plan to make-up the hours missed.
 - Students are granted two days, which may be used for sick time if required without making up the fieldwork hours missed. When a “pattern of absences” emerges, a student will be subject to placement review, academic contracting and/or termination from the placement.
 - It is the students’ responsibility to meet the required fieldwork hours by the last day of winter semester).
- (k) Students are expected to be prepared for scheduled field placement site visits with faculty, fieldwork supervisor and student. The student is responsible to bring to each scheduled meeting a copy of his or her learning contract and verbally report on learning progress. These meetings provide the opportunity to monitor and evaluate the individual student’s progress, provide support and assist with problem solving when necessary. Students are to forward an agenda to faculty one week prior to scheduled site visit.
- (l) Students are required to be familiar with and abide by the SSW Program Field Placement Manual policies and procedures. Non-compliance with relevant fieldwork expectations and/or policies will result in placement review and/or termination in accordance with procedures detailed in the SSW Field placement manual.
- (m) Assignments submitted to fieldwork faculty with 10 or more spelling/grammar errors will not be graded. Student may have one week to edit work and re-submit to the professor. This is at the professor’s discretion.
- (n) Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the College’s “Student Code of Conduct” policies available on the student portal.

IV. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM

Fieldwork is assigned an “S” or “U” grade (“S” = satisfactory completion of requirements); “U” indicates unsatisfactory completion or incompleteness of requirements or “F” (fail). Additional comments in the evaluation form will identify particular areas of strength and areas for improvement. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA or better to continue in fieldwork. The evaluation format used is documented in the fieldwork manual.

The primary methods of evaluation include:

- A) Successful and timely completion of the minimum required hours and learning contract document detailing evidence of achievement of SSW fieldwork outcomes
- B) Successful and timely completion of other required fieldwork documents
- C) Faculty and placement supervisor evaluations are satisfactory and are submitted as expected. \

Fieldwork evaluation involves some degree of subjectivity and the evaluation process recognizes this. Agency circumstances change and student needs change during the course of fieldwork. Accordingly, flexibility may be required and shall be regarded as a professional skill. The professor provides the consistency required for fair and accurate placement evaluation.

Students will be required to document their learning progress and provide evidence of learning activities through the standardized learning contract. Format posted on LMS and contained in the SSW Fieldwork Manual. This will be reviewed with the professor and revised accordingly. The fieldwork supervisor must sign all submissions.

There will be one formal performance evaluation at the end of placement. The evaluation is completed by the Fieldwork placement supervisor in conjunction with the student and faculty.

The SSW Program evaluation format (located in SSW Field Placement Manual) will be used for the final evaluation. Each student will be fully aware of what is in his or her evaluations. The College professor then collates this information and assigns a final grade. The professor reserves the right to assign mid-term and final grade.

Toward the end of the placement, each student will be required to write a "Student Evaluation of Fieldwork Placement Setting". This is to be submitted to the professor and the agency supervisor prior to the student's last day of placement.

The professor in assigning the field grade will also consider punctual and regular attendance at placement and timely completion of assignments.

Learning Contract:

1. Students will review the learning contract completed in fall of 2011.
2. It is assumed that all of the learning goals/vocational outcomes are ongoing. However, for the purpose of the final semester learning contract, students will select the unmet goal/task areas identified in the fall semester learning contract to focus on for the duration of the final semester. Format will be provided and discussed in seminar.

Final Evaluation:

There will be a final evaluation. The final evaluation will be posted on LMS, and is the same form that was used in the fall semester. The final evaluation is due in seminar the week of April 16th.

Grading System:

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in post-secondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

Note: For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

V. SPECIAL NOTES:

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session. Late arrivers are welcome to join the class after the break.

Communication:

The College considers LMS as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking LMS is critical as it will keep students directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to students' willingness to take advantage of the Learning Management System communication tool.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.

PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS:
(Always keep in mind that you are a student on this placement)

1. To regard the welfare of the individuals you serve, the agency, and the College (not always in this order) as your primary professional duty.
2. To hold yourself responsible for your professional conduct.
3. To be willing always to increase your professional competence and to willingly share your knowledge with others in your profession.
4. To strive to support the further development of your profession by participating to the best of your ability in related professional activities.
5. To work cooperatively with other persons having regard for their areas of competence.
6. To use clear communication in expressing your view on the findings, opinions, and professional conduct of colleagues, confining such comments to matters of fact and matters of your own knowledge.
7. To respect the privacy, dignity, and other rights of clients and fellow staff (see policy on confidentiality).
8. To use in responsible manner information received in the course of professional relationships.
9. To follow the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers Code of Ethics (attached) where applicable to students.

**Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers
Code of Ethics**

1. A social worker or social service worker shall maintain the best interests of the client as the primary professional obligation.
2. A social worker or social service worker shall respect the intrinsic worth of the persons she or he serves in her or his professional relationships with them
3. A social worker or social service worker shall carry out her or his professional duties and obligations with integrity and objectivity.
4. A social worker or social service worker shall have and maintain competence in the provision of a social work or social service work service to a client.
5. A social worker or social service worker shall not exploit the relationship with a client for personal benefit, gain, or gratification.
6. A social worker or social service worker shall protect the confidentiality of all professionally acquired information. He or she shall disclose such information only when required or allowed by law to do so, or when clients have consented to disclosure.
7. A social worker or social service worker who engages in another profession, occupation, affiliation or calling shall not allow these outside interests to affect the social work or social service work relationship with the client.
8. A social worker or social service worker shall not provide social work or social service work services in a manner that discredits the profession of social work or social service work or diminishes the public's trust in either profession.
9. A social worker or social service worker shall advocate for workplace conditions and policies that are consistent with this Code of Ethics and the Standards of Practice of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers.
10. A social worker or a social service worker shall promote excellence in his or her respective profession.
11. A social worker or social service worker shall advocate change in the best interest of the client, and for the overall benefit of society, the environment, and the global community.

Field Placement Attendance Record:

Students are expected to have time sheets signed by their field placement supervisor on a weekly basis. Students are to submit time sheets to the College Faculty as required initially, every two weeks and thereafter as instructed by the professor, monthly. Students must record the actual number of hours “worked” each day and report any lateness or absences on the time sheet. Students are required to maintain a copy of their attendance record and to track the required hours.

Please complete daily by filling in the times you began and completed placement, and the total number of hours this amounts to (i.e., 9:00 – 5:00, 7 hours). Ensure your fieldwork supervisor initials at the end of each week. Forms must be submitted to the designated College Faculty as required.

Student Name: _____
 Placement Setting: _____
 Fieldwork Supervisor Signature: _____

Month of: _____

Week Of	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total	Supervisor Initials

Total for the Month: _____ hours
 Total Days Absent: _____
 Make-Up Time Dates Approved: _____

Sample: January

Week Of	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total	Initials
Jan 8th	9 – 5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)					21	
Jan 15	9 – 5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)					21	
Jan 22	9 – 5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)					21	
Jan 29	9-5 (7)	9-5 (7)	9 – 5 (7)					21	
Total								84	

Total for the Month: 84 hours
 Total Days Absent: 0
 Make-Up Time Dates Approved: _____