School of Social Sciences course summary

Semester 1, 2016

SOCW4010 Social Work Practice: Level 4 Placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course convenor</th>
<th>Maree Higgins</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email/ phone</td>
<td><a href="mailto:m.higgins@unsw.edu.au">m.higgins@unsw.edu.au</a>  02 9385 1963</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of the course**

This course allows you to apply the theoretical and skills based learning in a practice setting. You will be linked with a qualified social worker in a human services agency offering practice based learning, in accordance with the AASW Practice Standards. This learning experience is supported by social work supervision promoting critical reflection; it will guide you through a developmental process focusing on knowledge, skills and values relevant to the social work profession. Placement allocation is managed in consultation with you, so that prioritises your learning goals and professional interests. Placements occur in diverse contexts of practice such as hospitals, state and federal government departments, and non-government community based organisations. Social work interventions may include policy, research, counselling, case work and community work. You will develop general social work skills, transferable to all social work contexts. The placement comprises 70 attendance days (490 hours) and is generally undertaken four days per week throughout Semester 1. The placement is accompanied by a series of Integration Seminars that support and complement your field based learning, with an emphasis on theory-practice integration, critical social work and critical reflection.

**Course learning outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Understand and respond to the needs and behaviour of clients using social work knowledge, skills, and values.
- Identify links between social work theory and practice.
- Have developed the capacity to critically reflect upon their practice within the placement.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how the placement organisation works.
- Display an understanding of the position and role of the organisation in the overall pattern of welfare provision.
- Demonstrate awareness of general policy issues relevant to the context of the organisation and student’s own practice.
- Have a clear understanding of the scope of social work and its relationship to other occupations.
- Demonstrate development of professional relationships with...
organisation staff.
• Display skills and systematic use of knowledge in the areas of assessment, goal setting, and intervention.
• Realistically appraise their own practice and learning and recognise their own strengths, limitations, and individual practice style.
• Be aware of, and demonstrate differences between friendships and professional/working relationships.
• Demonstrate an awareness of the impact of their values, experiences, and personality on others.

In achieving these objectives students are expected to take responsibility for their learning in both the classroom and agency components of the course by participating actively at all times.

**Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment tasks</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Graduate attributes assessed</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Contract</td>
<td>As per template on Social Work Field Education Management System</td>
<td>Hurdle Requirement: must satisfy Liaison Staff and the Course Convenor</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>• Information Literacy - the skills to locate, evaluate and use relevant information&lt;br&gt;• The skills of effective communication&lt;br&gt;• An in-depth engagement with the relevant disciplinary knowledge in its interdisciplinary context&lt;br&gt;• The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning&lt;br&gt;• A respect for ethical practice and social responsibility</td>
<td>10 working days after placement commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practice Journal and time sheet</td>
<td>As per guidelines in Course Outline</td>
<td>Hurdle Requirement: must satisfy Liaison Staff and the Course Convenor</td>
<td>2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10</td>
<td>• The skills involved in scholarly enquiry&lt;br&gt;• The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning&lt;br&gt;• The capacity for enterprise, initiative and creativity&lt;br&gt;• A respect for ethical practice and social responsibility</td>
<td>Ongoing throughout the Placement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Placement Liaison Visit</td>
<td>Prepara-tory Notes: as per guideline 9.5</td>
<td>Hurdle Requirement: must satisfy Liaison Staff and the Course</td>
<td>2, 3, 4, 7, 9</td>
<td>• Information Literacy - the skills to locate, evaluate and use relevant information&lt;br&gt;• The skills of effective communication</td>
<td>March/ April</td>
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</table>
| Mid Placement Report | As per template on Social Work Field Education Management System | Hurdle Requirement: must satisfy Liaison Staff and the Course Convenor | 1,8,9,11,12 | • Information Literacy - the skills to locate, evaluate and use relevant information  
• The skills of effective communication  
• An in-depth engagement with the relevant disciplinary knowledge in its interdisciplinary context  
• The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning  
• A respect for ethical practice and social responsibility | At 35 days of placement attendance |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| End Placement Report | As per template on Social Work Field Education Management System | Hurdle Requirement: With all other documents the End Placement Report must satisfy the Course Convenor for allocation of a SY Grade | 1,8,9,11,12 | • Information Literacy - the skills to locate, evaluate and use relevant information  
• The skills of effective communication  
• An in-depth engagement with the relevant disciplinary knowledge in its interdisciplinary context  
• The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning  
• A respect for ethical practice and social responsibility | At 70 days of completed placement and/or the last day of placement |
| Level 3 Seminar Booklets | Completion of all sections as discussed in Integration Seminars | Hurdle Requirement: must satisfy the Course Convenor for allocation of a SY grade | 2,7,12 | • The skills required for collaborative and multidisciplinary work  
• The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning  
• A respect for ethical practice and social responsibility | At the final Integration Seminar or upon completion of 70 placement days. |
The final assessment for this course is the End Placement Report and the Integration Seminar Booklets which, like all the assessment tasks, are hurdle requirements that must be submitted in order for you to be awarded a grade for this course.

For the purpose of attendance monitoring, timesheets signed by your Field Educator and seminar rolls will be consulted throughout placement by the Course Convenor and your Liaison Tutor. If you do not meet the attendance requirements for this course you will be invited to a meeting to discuss your circumstances and the viability of the placement. (see https://socialsciences.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/).

The full course outline will be available in the Social Work Field Education Management System from Monday 25 January 2016.