

Generalist Concentration (MSW/BSW)

Generalist Field Placement Learning Opportunities

The Generalist curriculum prepares students to practice social work with diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Generalist field placements encourage students to develop and demonstrate core generalist practice competencies through engagement in a range of roles and skills, service delivery models, culturally responsive approaches and policy advocacy areas where they: apply ethical principles and critical thinking to practice at the micro, mezzo and macro levels; incorporate an equity lens in practice; advocate for human rights and social and economic justice; recognize, support and build on strengths and resiliency of all human beings; engage in research informed practice; and use leadership skills to promote sustainable changes in service delivery and practice to improve the quality of interventions.

Types of field placement settings:

Field placements provide BSW and MSW students with a range of opportunities to practice with individuals, families, groups, organization and community systems. These include but are not limited to:

- Community Based Organizations (all fields of practice)
- Schools
- Housing Programs/Shelters
- Corrections programs
- Programs supporting older adults

- Treatment clinics, e.g. in/outpatient MH & Substance Use
- Domestic violence and sexual assault programs
- Child Welfare settings
- Programs supporting individuals and families who are economically marginalized
- Programs supporting the rights and needs of people with disabilities

Internship Activities that Support Student Learning:

- **Direct Practice:** Provide case management, conduct intakes and assessments, coordinate information and referral services, create action plans, court accompaniment, linkage to basic needs resources
- **Group facilitation:** Assist in planning and preparation, co-facilitate and facilitate support groups, community education groups
- Documentation: Master agency-specific documentation systems and methods, data collection, grant reporting
- **Organizational engagement:** Attend staff meetings, serve on committees, implement agency-wide initiatives, conduct needs assessments, facilitate trainings, analyze agency policies, advocate for policy or practice changes
- **Community engagement:** Conduct outreach, participate in community organizing, relationship and partnership-building, represent agency at community meetings, conduct community needs assessment, advocate for community needs
- **Policy practice:** Identify policies impacting agency practice, engage in policy advocacy, monitor legislative action and priorities for field of practice, summarize legislative session outcomes relevant to population/agency
- **Cultural Responsiveness:** Initiate or strengthen collaborative partnerships within larger community context, provide culturally responsive services, support agency in advancing equity practices
- **Research to Practice and Practice to Research:** Research best practices for agency population, research current agency practices for alignment with best practices, develop infographic on best practices, develop evaluation instrument.