**MSW Foundation Learning Contract**

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|  | ScWk 720 Field Practicum I |  | ScWk 721 Field Practicum II |

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| Practicum student | Nicole Bosch | Date | 9/5/2011 |
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| Field Instructor | Cindy Blasi | Agency | Communities in Schools |
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| On-Site Supervisor | David Larson |

Social work is a highly demanding profession, requiring certain attributes and professional standards in order to practice effectively. These professional standards involve professional comportment, commitment, and the ability to develop productive relationships with clients and colleagues. This learning contract is intended to be a *working document* to give the practicum student feedback about his or her performance.

**Core Competency #1: Identify as a professional social worker and conduct one self accordingly to develop Generalist practice.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 1 - Advocates for client access to the services of social work.
* PB 2 - Practices personal reflection and self-correction to assure continual professional development.
* PB 3 - Attends to professional roles and boundaries.
* PB 4 - Demonstrates professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and communication.
* PB 5 - Engages in career-long learning.
* PB 6 - Uses supervision and consultation.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Attend weekly supervision meetings to discuss issues and progress |
| * Discuss with site coordinator progress being made with social skills groups |

**Core Competency #2: Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice in intervention situations.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 7 - Recognizes and manages personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice.
* PB 8 - Makes ethical decisions by applying standards of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics and, as applicable, of the International Federation of Social Workers/International Association of Schools of Social Work Ethics in Social Work, Statement of Principles.
* PB 9 - Tolerates ambiguity in resolving ethical conflicts.
* PB 10 - Applies strategies of ethical reasoning to arrive at principled decisions.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Engage in social services that demonstrate professional values and ethical standards |
| * Will discuss at least two ethical dilemmas with site coordinator |

**Core Competency #3: Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 11 - Applies strategies of ethical reasoning to arrive at principled decisions.
* PB 12 - Analyzes models of assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation.
* PB 13 - Demonstrates effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and colleagues.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will develop pre and post tests to assess services being provided and client's responses to services |
| * Will communicate orally in a professional manner with clients, and demonstrate written communication skills through evaluation of lunch groups |

**Core Competency #4: Engage diversity and difference in practice.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 14 - Recognizes the extent to which a culture’s structures and values may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create or enhance privilege and power.
* PB 15 - Gains sufficient self-awareness to eliminate the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups.
* PB 16 - Recognizes and communicates his or her understanding of the importance of difference in shaping life experiences.
* PB 17 - Views self as a learner and engages those with whom he or she works as informants.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will discuss issues in diversity and the culture of the population with site coordinator |
| * Will self-evaluation progress being made with clients during tutoring and mentoring |

**Core Competency #5: Advance human rights and social and economic justice.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 18 - Understands the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination.
* PB 19 - Advocates for human rights and social and economic justice.
* PB 20 - Engages in practices that advance social and economic justice.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will advocate for clients to be treated equally and fairly through delivery of services |
| * Will attend a Reality U event |

**Core Competency #6: Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 21 - Uses practice experience to inform scientific inquiry.
* PB 22 - Uses research evidence to inform practice.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will use research methods to discover and develop a curriculum for a social skills group |
| * Will research methods to learn to better practices for providing social services |

**Core Competency #7: Apply Generalist skills & knowledge of human behavior and the social environment.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 23 - Utilizes conceptual frameworks to guide the processes of assessment, intervention, and evaluation.
* PB 24 - Critiques and applies knowledge to understand person and environment.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will use concrete measures to evaluate and assess porgress being made with clients |
| * Will evaluate self with site coordinator on ability to assess and understand clients |

**Core Competency #8: Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 25 - Analyzes, formulates, and advocates for policies that advance social well-being.
* PB 26 - Collaborates with colleagues and clients for effective policy action.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will create an effective safety plan and practice to implement when working face to face with clients and during home visits |
| * Will meet with field instructor to discuss if policies in action are effective |

**Core Competency #9: Respond to contexts that shape practice.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 27 - Continuously discovers, appraises, and attends to changing locales, populations, scientific and technological developments, and emerging societal trends to provide relevant services.
* PB 28 - Provides leadership in promoting sustainable changes in service delivery and practice to improve the quality of social services.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will discuss weekly with site coordinator changes and developments being made to stay relevant and provide services accordingly |
| * Will make two suggestions for changes to improve the delivery of services |

**Core Competency #10: Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.**

Practice behaviors (PB) needed to develop this competency:

* PB 29 - Substantively and affectively prepares for action with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
* PB 30 - Uses empathy and other interpersonal skills.
* PB 31 - Develops a mutually agreed-on focus of work and desired outcomes.
* PB 32 - Collects, organizes, and interprets client data**.**
* PB 33 - Assesses client strengths and limitations.
* PB 34 - Develops mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives.
* PB 35 - Selects appropriate intervention strategies.
* PB 36 - Initiates actions to achieve organizational goals**.**
* PB 37 - Implements prevention interventions that enhance client capacities**.**
* PB 38 - Helps clients resolve problems**.**
* PB 39 - Negotiates, mediates, and advocates for clients**.**
* PB 40 - Facilitates transitions and endings in his or her relationships with clients**.**
* PB 41 - Critically analyzes, monitors, and evaluates interventions.

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| Activities to Develop Skills |
| * Will enter client data into CISDM |
| * Will lead a peer mediation |

**Signature Page & Weekly Practicum Schedule on last page! → → → →**

Weekly Practicum Schedule

Indicate hours per day (ie 8:00 – 4:00)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  |  | 9-2:30 |  | 9-3:30 | 9:30-1:30 |  |

Student Signature Date

Field Instructor Signature Date

On-Site Supervisor Signature Date