

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

**SW 541 – Generalist Field Practice Seminar for Extended Study students**

Section 001  
1 credit hour  
Summer 2019

**Instructors:** Carmen Foster, LMSW

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**Phone:** 615-256-1885

**Office Hours:** Via Zoom, By appointment

**Code of Conduct**

It is the student's responsibility to have read the College of Social Work Ethical Academic and Professional Conduct Code that is in the College of Social Work MSSW Handbook ([www.csw.utk.edu](http://www.csw.utk.edu)). Students are also expected to sign and adhere to the Social Work Field Placement Code of Conduct.

**The Honor Statement**

An essential feature of The University of Tennessee is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the University, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity. (*Hilltopics*).

**University Civility Statement**

Civility is genuine respect and regard for others: politeness, consideration, tact, good manners, graciousness, cordiality, affability, amiability and courteousness. Civility enhances academic freedom and integrity, and is a prerequisite to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge in the learning community. Our community consists of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and campus visitors. Community members affect each other's well-being and have a shared interest in creating and sustaining an environment where all community members and their points of view are valued and respected. Affirming the value of each member of the university community, the campus asks that all its members adhere to the principles of civility and community adopted by the campus: <http://civility.utk.edu/>

**Disability**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability or if you have emergency information to share, please contact The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Student Disability Services office at 100 Dunford Hall (865) 974-6087. This will ensure that you are properly registered for services.

**Dimensions of Diversity**

The College of Social Work and the University of Tennessee welcome and honor all people. In accordance with the U.S. National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the U.S. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE 2015 Educational Policy Statement), "the dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including" age, class, color, culture,

mental or physical disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, gender identity, immigration status, marital status, national origin, political ideology, race, regionality, religion and spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. The College values intellectual curiosity, pursuit of knowledge, and academic freedom and integrity. "A person's diverse life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power, and acclaim" (CSWE 2015 Educational Policy Statement). The College of Social Work promotes social justice and social change, and strives to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice.

### **Course Description**

SW 541 is the first of a sequence of three required generalist field practicum courses in the MSSW curriculum. This seminar is intended to prepare students for their first field agency experience beginning in the fall semester. Students will continue with the seminar in the fall and spring semesters concurrently with the agency practicum.

The focus in field is on the application of social work knowledge, values, ethics, and skills to the practice setting. The focus of this first field seminar is on ethical and professional communication and use of technology in the field setting. Topics covered will include documentation, ethical use of social media, risk management related to professional communication, and trends related to service provision through technology. This course will be taught in an online format through Canvas. Students are required to review all materials and lectures posted on Canvas and complete two required assignments.

### **Course Rationale**

Generalist Field is critical to the students' capacity to integrate the broad knowledge base required for effective generalist social work practice regardless of setting. The field practicum experience enables students to identify and respond to issues of social justice and diversity and use an ethical, ecological approach to solving real client problems. The generalist field courses lay the essential groundwork of generalist practice competencies preparing students to progress to concentration field experiences.

### **Course Competencies**

This seminar will focus on Generalist Field Competency 1:

Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

- 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 the context.
- Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations.
- Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and oral, written, and electronic communication.
- Use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes.

### **Course Assignments**

***\*LIVE online lecture June 19, 2019 at 5:30PM CST (zoom link will be sent out)***

**Assignment One (Due June 12, 5PM CST)**

- 1) Watch recorded lecture on the ethical use of technology (link posted on Canvas)
- 2) Read the following articles:
  - Fels, A. (2105, April 4). "Do you Google Your Shrink?" *The New York Times*. Retrieved from: <https://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/04/04/do-you-google-your-shrink/>
  - Judd, R & Johnson, L. (2012). Ethical Consequences of Using Social Networking Sites for Students in Professional Social Work Programs. *Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics*, 9(1). Retrieved from: <http://www.jsvwarchives.com/spring12/spr122.pdf>
- 3) Google your own name, phone number, address, etc. and review findings to include images that are readily available of yourself on the World Wide Web. Think about your presence and how that might impact your career as a professional social worker.

### **Assignment Two (Due July 10, 5PM CST)**

- 1) Listen to Podcast Episode 110 from the InSocialWork Podcast Series titled: "Social Media Use and Social Work Practice: Boundary and Ethical Considerations." 35 minutes  
<http://www.insocialwork.org/episode.asp?ep=110>
- 2) Read the MSSW Field Manual Section 8.08: Use of Technology and Social Media in Field  
<http://www.csw.utk.edu/field/docs/mssw/MSSW%20Field%20Manual.pdf>
- 3) Read the following articles:
  - Reamer, F. G. (2013). Social Work in a Digital Age: Ethical and Risk Management Challenges, *Social Work*, 58 (1), 163–172. Retrieved from: <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swt003>
  - Reamer, F.G. (2009, November) **Novel Boundary Challenges: Social Networking**. Eye on Ethics. *Social Work Today*. Retrieved from: [http://www.socialworktoday.com/news/eoe\\_111309.shtml](http://www.socialworktoday.com/news/eoe_111309.shtml)
  - Social Workers' Guide to Social Media: <http://socialwork.buffalo.edu/resources/social-media-guide.html>
- 4) After completing the readings and assignments related to social and considering your new role as a field student and professional social worker, please come up with your own personal social media policy.
  - ***Post your social media policy*** on the Discussion board **by July 10 at 5PM CST**.
  - ***Complete discussion board*** about what you uncovered by searching for your own name on Google **by July 10 at 5PM CST**.

### **Grading Information**

Grading for SW 541 is Satisfactory/No Credit. The Field Coordinator is the course instructor and is responsible for assigning the final grade. In order to receive a Satisfactory grade in SW 541, students must complete the following requirements:

- Active participation in seminar discussion boards and activities.
- Adequate completion of all written assignments and discussion boards, with attention to content, clarity, depth of thought, and organization.