

The University of Tennessee
College of Social Work
MSSW Program

**LEARNING PLAN FOR THE
FOUNDATION PRACTICUM**

Student: _____

Semester: Fall Spring Summer

Agency: _____

Date: _____

Field Instructor: _____

Field Consultant: _____

The learning plan is a working agreement between the field instructor, the student and the College. The plan is based on the goals of the foundation and the learning objectives for the foundation field. This plan must be completed at the beginning of the academic year and reviewed and revised each subsequent semester. The learning plan can be revised at any other time if the field instructor, student and/or field consultant conclude that a revision is needed. The learning plan and its objectives will be the standard for evaluating the student's progress in field.

Under each objective, a list of suggested tasks/activities is provided. The field instructor and the student should review the objectives and select tasks/activities that will enable the student to achieve each objective. The field instructor and student should select as many of the tasks/activities that are available in the agency to assist the student's learning. There is additional space provided to add tasks/activities that are not listed and may be unique to the agency setting. When selecting learning activities, please keep in mind the student's experience, phase of learning, and learning style.

The completed and signed learning plan should be returned to the Senior Recorder, UT College of Social Work. The Senior Recorder will be responsible for obtaining the signature of the field consultant. **The field instructor and the student should keep a copy for their records and for periodic review and revision.**

Knoxville-Return to
228 Henson Hall
Knoxville, TN 37996-3333

Memphis-Return to
711 Jefferson
Room W-607
Memphis, TN 38163

Nashville-Return to
193 Polk Ave., Suite E
Room 278
Nashville, TN 37210

GOAL 1: Use an ecological framework to assess the reciprocally determined interaction of person and environment.

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Engage the client, family, group, community and organization in identifying strengths, issues and problems
- b) Obtain sufficient information about biopsychosocial factors to understand system functioning to include environmental conditions and issues of risk and resiliency
- c) Use specific frameworks, ecological and life-span perspectives, to assess system functioning
- d) Recognize the impact of factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status and social justice
- e) Articulate clearly, both verbally and in writing, the assessment of the client, family, group, community and/or organization

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive/walk through the clients' neighborhood | <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss with field instructor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review case records | <input type="checkbox"/> Observe intake/assessment activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete intake activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Role-play an assessment with field instructor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete an assessment of client, family, group, community and/or organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Document assessment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete audio/video of assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Construct an eco-map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construct a genogram | <input type="checkbox"/> Present assessment to treatment team/staff |

Other: (specify below)

GOAL 2: Use problem-solving skills to address client's personal, interpersonal, economic and environmental problems.

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Listen carefully and identify content and affect of client, family, group and/or community
- b) Utilize listening, focusing, and responding skills to establish an environment of acceptance
- c) Engage the client, family, group, community and/or organization in formulating intervention plans, including objectives, methods and measures of outcome
- d) Identify and facilitate the utilization of resources, both formal and informal
- e) Formulate intervention plans that are responsive to client racial and/or ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observe field instructor and/or other professionals' interactions with clients | <input type="checkbox"/> Locate and match clients to community resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review case records | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop/update resource directory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audio or videotape interviews with clients | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview clients |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss interviews with field instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete process recording |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work with client in mutual goal setting and contracting | <input type="checkbox"/> Formulate treatment plans |

Other: (specify below)

GOAL 3: Demonstrate knowledge of social work research methods.

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Locate research materials that apply to the client population and/or service delivery
- b) Evaluate the implications of research for client population and/or service delivery
- c) Apply basic research methodology in evaluating practice outcomes

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a literature review on client population and problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in review by funding or licensing agencies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate interventions with the client and field instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a satisfaction survey for clients |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use literature review to select intervention with client, groups or community | <input type="checkbox"/> Implement a satisfaction survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in collecting data for evaluating agency's outcomes | |

Other: (specify below)

GOAL 4: Engage in practice that empowers clients and client groups.

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Describe to client or client group the organization's services, policies and procedures and how they affect service delivery
- b) Engage clients in mutually defining strengths, problems, goals and actions
- c) Describe the agency's relationship to the community and the social delivery network
- d) Support client, family, group, community and/or organization change efforts

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review organization's policies and procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit other agencies in the community service delivery network to be informed about resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interview key people in the agency regarding policies and procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss with field instructor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review agency case records | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop case plans with clients |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be responsible for individual cases | <input type="checkbox"/> Make referrals to other agencies/resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a list of resources available to the client | <input type="checkbox"/> Document case plans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide follow up services on referrals and tasks | |

Other: (specify below)

GOAL 5: Advocate for greater social and economic justice.

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Identify the impact of policies, procedures, and funding sources on the client, family, group, community and/or organization with particular sensitivity to issues of oppression and social/economic justice
- b) Support client, family, group, community and/or organization in advocating for more humane and just services
- c) Work cooperatively with peers and other professionals to advocate for clients and for humane and just services

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review organization's policies and procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend committee meetings on proposed legislation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review literature on a particular social welfare policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview key people in the agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend meetings of decision-makers who effect policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss with field instructor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in committees that are developing or revising policies | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist in grant-writing activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in intra/interagency committees or task forces | |

Other: (specify below)

GOAL 6: Apply the ethics and values of the profession to social work practice at all system levels.

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Demonstrate knowledge of values, principles and theories that guide effective interventions
- b) Articulate and demonstrate the social work roles within the context of a multi-disciplinary setting
- c) Identify ethical dilemmas, value issues and role conflicts
- d) Use the NASW Code of Ethics to guide practice and address ethical dilemmas/conflicts
- e) Establish and maintain appropriate boundaries

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Read the NASW Code of Ethics | <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in/observe agency's ethics committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss ethical dilemmas with field instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Review cases that illustrate ethical dilemmas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete and review process dictation with field instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in multi- disciplinary staffing/committees |

Other: (specify below)

GOAL 7: Actively engage in developing his/her professional self

Objectives: The student should be able to:

- a) Meet agency/professional standards for attendance, appointments and meetings
- b) Prepare for supervision conferences through reading, setting the agenda, and being prompt
- c) Seek and initiate opportunities for learning
- d) Follow through on commitments to clients and agency
- e) Interact with clients, colleagues, agency personnel and other professionals in an ethical and professional manner
- f) Assess strengths and limitations as a professional and use that awareness as tool for learning
- g) Distinguish his/her own needs, experiences, and values from those of the client
- h) Integrate new knowledge and/or suggestions given by field instructor

Tasks/Activities to accomplish objectives: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keep practicum log and/or journal | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete required documentation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use time management skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare agenda for supervisory conference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Develop learning goals/objectives for placement | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarify social work role to clients and others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete self evaluation and evaluation forms | <input type="checkbox"/> Read the agency's personnel policies regarding time and attendance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend in-service training | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop article file and bibliography on client population |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend other training events relevant to practicum | |

Other: (specify below)

Signature Page

Field Instructor

Student

Field Consultant

Date

Reviewed/Revised

Field Instructor

Student

Field Consultant

Date

Reviewed/Revised

Field Instructor

Student

Field Consultant

Date

Reviewed/Revised

Field Instructor

Student

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Date