All BSW students are required to take SOW 4510 (Field Education in Social Work), which includes a classroom field seminar plus 400 agency-based hours supervised by a professional social worker. This experience integrates classroom knowledge from the Human Behavior in the Social Environment (HBSE) sequence, practice sequence, research sequence, and policy sequence; students use this knowledge base to develop skills to intervene with various clients.

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Declarative Knowledge, Technical Skills): Graduates will demonstrate content knowledge and skill necessary for beginning generalist practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities. A full list of these skills is available by consulting the BSW Generalist Field SOW 4510 Evaluation of Student Performance: http://www.fau.edu/divdept/caupa/ssw/bsw/fieldforms.html

Evaluation of students’ content knowledge is a two-fold process.
1. Students will be required to demonstrate mastery of this content knowledge through the planning and presentation of a case study. Evaluation of the case study presented in class will be based on criteria presented in the course syllabus which has been approved by the entire faculty of the School of Social Work. Criteria include presentation organization, thoroughness of presentation, knowledge and skills demonstrated in the case study. The university-based field faculty will evaluate all case presentations.
2. Additionally, agency-based field instructors will evaluate individual students’ overall content knowledge (and skill) in a final evaluation of student performance, completed for each individual student in order to pass this course (cf. BSW Generalist Field Education Evaluation of Student Performance, Item 33).

COMMUNICATION (Oral Communication, Written Communication): Students will demonstrate oral communication abilities through the presentation of a case study. Criteria include presentation format, eye contact, ability to respond to questions, and appropriate mastery of language associated with the case. Also, students will demonstrate written communication abilities in the field site through agency documentation requirements. Criteria for evaluation include concise oral and written communication and the appropriate description of client assessment and interventions plan.
Students are assessed for the communication abilities in the following two ways:
1. A requirement of SOW 4510 is the oral presentation of a case study. Each case study is evaluated based on criteria developed by the faculty of the school of social work and is outlined in the course syllabus. Case presentations are evaluated by a faculty member and the student’s peers. In this oral presentation, students must demonstrate their ability to communicate an integration of all sequence areas in social work education; including HBSE, policy, practice and research.
2. In the final field evaluation of individual students’ performance, agency-based field supervisors will evaluate each student’s abilities in written and oral communication. Specifically, field instructors evaluate each student’s ability to identify and appropriately use agency records and complete agency documentation requirements; to communicate clearly with a client; to perform all agency documentation in a professional manner; and to present information in a well-written formal client assessment (cf. BSW Generalist Field Education SOW 4510 Evaluation of Student’s Performance, Items 31a, 31b, 31c, and 31d).

CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS (Analytical Skills, Creative Skills, Practical Skills): Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills in their oral presentation of a case study that demonstrates mastery and appropriate application of knowledge and skill from prior course work to the specific case and to agency requirements.

Students are assessed for critical thinking using two methods.
1. Using criteria developed by the faculty of the school of social work and identified in the course syllabi of SOW 4510, university based field faculty will evaluate each oral presentation for the demonstration of critical thinking. Criteria are based on a student’s mastery of content found in the practice sequence, the HBSE sequence, the research sequence and the policy sequence. All of this content must be used to adequately understand appropriate strategies for interventions used in case studies.
2. Students will also be evaluated for critical thinking skills by agency based field instructors (cf. BSW Generalist Field Education SOW 4510 Evaluation of Student’s Performance, Item 23a).

Failure to attain a passing grade on the student’s performance evaluation or in this course will initiate an academic review. Possible outcomes of these evaluations involve repeating a field placement or some portion of the placement, tutoring, or course failure.

Approved 12-02-2005