



Fall 2022

Sophomore

Social Work

Field Manual

(Electronic files of this manual and all forms included in this manual can be found on the Social Work Program website at www.malone.edu/academics/colleges-schools/theology-arts-sciences/departments/social-work/student-resources/)

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Social Work Program

Social Work Program

Social Work Program

Sophomore Field Manual for Social Work Fall 2022

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Purpose of the Manual

This manual has been written to help acquaint students and Field Supervisors with Malone University's Sophomore Field Experience. It provides a timeline for the sophomore field experience, including the dates by which fieldwork should be completed. It outlines some of the basics of the Malone University program and provides students and their field liaisons with guidelines for the completion of the Student Learning Contract.

The goal of the Sophomore Field Experience is to introduce students to the profession of Social Work, to generalist practice techniques and to social welfare institutions. The Sophomore Field Experience attempts to help students to evaluate their interest, and potential for success in the field of social work. Although not all social work programs require a sophomore placement, the faculty at Malone believes that students should be provided with opportunities to observe professional Social Workers and to understand the diversity of jobs that Social Workers are asked to do in our community. A student who has such opportunities can make a well-informed choice as to whether professional social work is the place in which to begin his or her career.

In sophomore placement:

1. Students are to spend a minimum of 40 hours in the field (an average of 4 hours per week for 10 weeks including a one-hour initial interview).
2. Students are entitled to follow the school calendar but must inform supervisors at least 48 hours in advance if they will miss their regularly scheduled field hours.
3. When a student is unable to go to the agency as scheduled (i.e., illness or emergency), s/he is to call the agency to relay this information. Except in dire emergency this should be accomplished prior to the student's scheduled time at the agency. The student is required to make up the hours within the schedule noted above.

Sophomore Field Placement Paperwork/Documentation Due Dates:

See SWK 222 Syllabus for due dates for Memorandum of Agreement, Learning Contract, Timesheet, Sophomore Evaluation, and Student Evaluation

The Social Work Program at Malone University

Malone University is carrying on one of the great traditions in social work - educating people for a life's work of assisting others. In Malone's program, this is done by encouraging personal faith, training persons to be able to do social work, and having them learn appropriate professional relationships.

Malone University is a four-year liberal arts institution affiliated with the Evangelical Friends Church. Social work is a natural major for the school to provide. Malone was founded in 1892 as Cleveland Bible College by Friends couple, Walter and Emma Malone, who were very concerned about social conditions and problems. The Malones were actively involved in providing direct services to Cleveland's poor (shelter, food, and education). The college moved to Canton, Ohio in 1957 and changed its name in honor of its founders.

The social work program at Malone University began in 1978 and was initially accredited by the Council on Social Work Education as an approved baccalaureate program in 1984. The program was fully accredited in 1992, and reaffirmation was successfully completed in 2001, 2008, and 2016. The Malone University Social Work Program is fully accredited and will come up again for reaffirmation in June 2024.

General Education and Social Work Education

Social Workers are best able to serve their clients when they have both the competency to help and the ability to listen to the needs of the diverse persons served by the profession. The Social Work program requires its majors to meet both the General Education requirements of the University, and to take additional courses in the liberal arts. These additional courses are designed to assist students to embrace and serve an increasingly diverse world.

Social Work Education

Malone's Social Work Program is designed to address three issues facing social work education:

1. Articulating and communicating a uniform definition of generalist practice
2. Building on the liberal arts
3. Connecting curriculum with community

Generalist Practice is grounded in the liberal arts and the person and environment construct. Generalist social work empowers individuals, families, groups and communities to protect, enhance and create relationships that foster the profession's six core values: competency, service, caring relationships, personal uniqueness and worth, social justice, and integrity towards the goals of fostering people's well-being and freedom of choice (Adapted from CSWE 2008, Reamer 1982).

Generalist social workers analyze social functioning, social relationships, social interactions, and individuals in interaction with the environment. This holistic perspective suggests social workers must be trained to assist others to make personal changes, to help people initiate changes in social policies, laws, and institutions which impact their lives, and to link them to resource systems. Social workers must be willing to assess and utilize appropriate techniques within societal systems of all sizes.

Social work employs techniques that assist people to engage in strengths based, goal directed thinking and decision-making. Social Work's knowledge is holistic and interactionist based and then is driven by social work's core values: the importance of caring relationships, service, integrity, competency, social justice, and personal uniqueness and worth. Social workers must be skilled in their application of their training. Internships and field placements invite students to identify and respond to the interplay between people's physical needs, their psycho-social development, echo systems, the strengths perspective, and anti-oppressive practice toward a plan change process.

Social Work education is designed to provide students with the tools to effectively practice entry-level social work. The Malone University program affirms and upholds the standards set forth by the Council on Social Work Education and is firmly committed to providing an education that will prepare its graduates for a career in social work or master's level training.

Mission Statement of the Social Work Program at Malone University

The Malone University Social Work Program draws on its unique context as an Evangelical Friends institution with access to urban, rural, and international practice opportunities to prepare entry-level social work practitioners who are capable of culturally appropriate practice across diverse populations who promote social justice and who can ethically integrate Christian faith with social work practice. This foundation fosters the growth of practice wisdom and scientific inquiry with an overarching purpose of enhancing the quality of life for micro, mezzo, and macro systems in relation to their environment.

Diversity and Social Work

Acceptance and encouragement of diversity have long been hallmarks of the profession of social work. The Malone University Social Work Program is also committed to these practices. The program will not discriminate in its admissions or education based on multiple factors including but not limited to age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. Students are expected to abide with the guidelines of the Malone Attitudinal and Behavioral Expectations and the Community Agreement as outlined in the University Catalog. Further, students are expected to understand and abide by the expectations outlined within this Handbook and the NASW Code of Ethics. The program is committed to presenting students with various perspectives on social issues and welcomes opportunities for students to be involved with those whose ethnicity, culture and/or experiences differ from the student's ethnicity, culture and experiences.

Social Work Program Goals at Malone University

The goals of the social work program are to:

1. Prepare students for beginning generalist social work practice. This includes developing entry level competency across system levels, meeting licensure requirements and developing an awareness of the importance of ongoing professional development.
*assists students to develop competencies 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
2. Assist students to recognize their own heritage and traditions and to gain knowledge and perspective to engage people from cultures, ethnic groups, and religions different from their own.
*assists students to develop competencies 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10
3. Assist students understand the interface between personal faith and social work, and to be able to make appropriate applications of each.
*assists students to develop competencies 1,2,3,6,7,8,10

Social Work Program Competencies at Malone University

Graduates of the Malone University Social Work Program will:

1. *Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior.*
2. *Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice.*
3. *Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice.*
4. *Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice.*
5. *Engage in Policy Practice.*
6. *Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.*
7. *Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.*
8. *Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.*
9. *Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.*
10. *Appropriately integrate Christian faith with professional social work practice and recognize the importance of spirituality to the human experience.
(Malone University Social Work Program Core Competency #10)*

Generalist Social Work Practice at Malone University

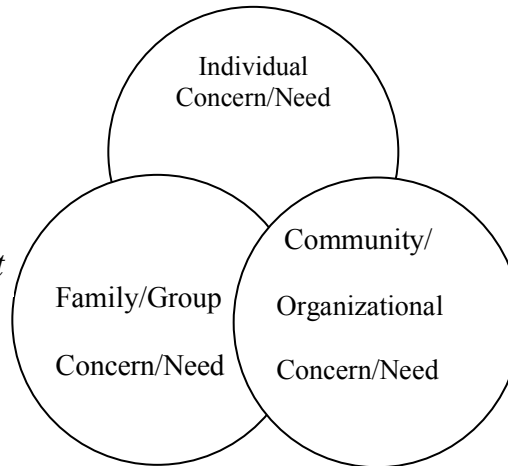
Generalist practice is grounded in the liberal arts and the person and environment construct. Generalist social work empowers individuals, families, groups and communities to protect, enhance and create relationships that foster the profession's six core values: competency, service, caring relationships, personal uniqueness and worth, social justice and integrity toward the goals of fostering people's well-being and freedom of choice. (Adapted from CSWE 2008, Reamer 1982).

Generalist Social Work Practice

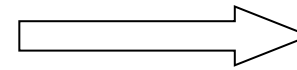


- A Generalist Social Worker Utilizes**
- Knowledge**
 - Liberal Arts Foundation
 - Social Work Support Courses
 - Educational Electives
 - Life Experience Openness to the Diversity of Human Experience
 - Professional Work Method**
 - Introduction to SWK
 - HBSE
 - Social Work Methods
 - SWK Research
 - Skill/Expertise**
 - Practice
 - Practicums
 - Professional Values**
 - Ethics Infused Curriculum
 - Observation of Other Professionals
 - Celebration of Diversity
 - Appropriate Integration of Faith and Spirituality
 - Policy & Laws**
 - Social Policy Coursework
 - Advocacy

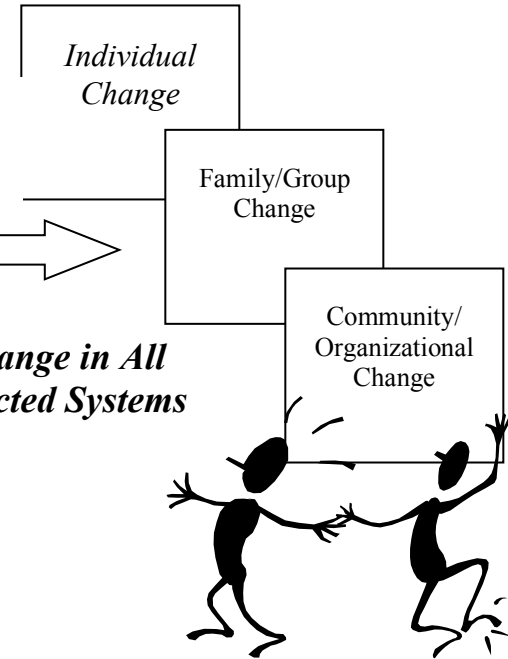
To Impact



To Assist and Empower



Change in All Effected Systems



Building on strength
Facilitating change
Empowering communities
Micah 6:8

Malone's Social Work Program: Utilizing the Canton Community

The Social Work program at Malone utilizes the dynamics from the rural communities of the counties south and west, the industrialized communities to the north, the Ohio Appalachian Communities directly south, the urban context of Canton, and international contexts to understand global issues, in order to assist students to understand and utilize generalist skills. The city provides examples of both concerns and resources to the program. The social service network functions to bring services to a variety of individuals, groups, and communities. The Social Work program at Malone emphasizes training students to utilize techniques with a strengthening person-in-environment perspective. The program seeks to produce entry-level generalist social workers that are able to recognize individual resilience and empower those served toward optimal functioning within their social context. Students are encouraged to attend on and off campus professional events to re-enforce community engagement.

Overview of the Sophomore Field Experience

The Sophomore Field Experience occurs concurrently with Introduction to the Profession and Practice of Social Work (SWK 222) in the fall semester of the sophomore year. This class is the first social work course students take. Most students have taken a number of support courses including basic Psychology and Biology prior to taking SWK 222 but enter Sophomore Field Placement with limited social service experience. Robert Lupton's book, *Toxic Charity*, will be reviewed to encourage students to examine their personal values and preconceptions as related to working with disadvantaged clients. Their text for the course is *The Social Work Experience: An Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare*, by Suppes and Wells. Students will be expected to integrate material learned at their field placement with class material.

Field Supervisors are encouraged to provide students with experiences which allow them to observe skilled workers both as they practice directly with clients and in other agency-related work.

To ensure the role of the student as the learner, if the student desires to complete a field practicum at the same location where they are employed, they must have new and different responsibilities than that of their employment job description, duties and responsibilities. The Field Director will work with the student and assigned supervisor to ensure that employment and internship responsibilities are not the same and that new learning is taking place during the students' practicum experience. This policy applies to all field practicums that students enroll in for credit (sophomore, junior and senior level practicums).

Typical assignments are suggested below and in the field contract. Field Supervisors are encouraged to modify or create assignments as appropriate. Assignments are suggested by subject, knowledge, and practice technique.

Suggested Assignments for Sophomore Level Students

A. Purpose of Social Work

1. Identify capacities of individuals, families, groups, and communities.
 - observe staff working with clients
 - develop an understanding of client needs
 - discuss client needs with supervisor
 - review particular client concerns to ascertain client strengths
 - explore the impact of cultural context for a group served by the agency
 - understand the goals of the agency
 - understand the impact of the environment on the client
 - personal contact with clients (that does not involve activities requiring a social work license or higher level of training than the student possesses)
2. Link people with systems that provide resources, services, and opportunities.
 - become familiar with other services
 - observe staff making linkages
 - make referrals
 - note possible gaps in service provision.
 - learn about agency services not provided by field liaison
3. Promote the effective and humane operation of systems that link people with services, resources, and opportunity.
 - observe a board meeting
 - discuss the strengths and limitations of the agency with Field Supervisor
 - discuss the adequacy of community supports with agency staff and community leaders
 - observe a group session (with permission of group members)
 - observe a staff meeting

B. Helping relationship

4. Be able to develop, utilize, and terminate appropriate helping relationships with individuals, groups, and families within community and agency.
 - observe staff relate to clients and each other
 - interview or co-interview clients
 - participate in or co-lead a group
 - visit agencies
 - lead a recreational activity

C. Problem-solving process

5. Identify and assess functional and dysfunctional relationships between individuals, families, groups, and social institutions.
 - read cases
 - discuss cases with Field Supervisor
 - attend staffing and team meetings
 - read additional materials as assigned
6. Develop and implement realistic plans for improving the well-being of people based on assessment, goal formation and available resources.
 - plan or co-plan an activity
 - read treatment plans
 - discuss treatment with Field Supervisor
7. Assess and evaluate the extent to which objectives of intervention have been achieved.
 - read evaluations
 - discuss evaluations with Field Supervisor
 - evaluate a planned activity
 - evaluate the field experience

D. Diversity awareness

8. Provide opportunities for students to interact with diverse cultures, ethnicities, age, abilities, or sexual orientations different than the student's culture, ethnicity, age, or orientation.
 - Provide readings that link agency service to the needs of diverse groups-
 - Discuss the nature of social diversity
 - Discuss techniques of intervention helpful to vulnerable populations and victims of discrimination.
 - visit various diverse parts of the city
 - participate in home visits
 - discuss diversity and vulnerable populations with Field Supervisor
 - read additional materials about diversity

E. Commitment to change

9. Participate in the development of new, modified or improved services.
 - attend a planning meeting
 - attend a public hearing
 - keep abreast of political developments

F. Add to the professional knowledge base

10. Promote improved professional social work practice by supporting the standards and ethics of the social work profession and by contributing to the professional knowledge base.

- participate in research
- attend an NASW meeting
- attend a workshop or seminar
- discuss ethical issues with Field Supervisor

G. Self-awareness, self-evaluation

11. Continue to understand one's personal strengths, weaknesses, values, beliefs, and actions, making changes where necessary.

- keep a journal
- discuss self-awareness and self-evaluation with Field Supervisor
- share experiences with classmates during discussion times

12. Understand the interface between personal faith and social work and be able to make appropriate use of each.

- discuss appropriate and inappropriate application of faith and social work

Evaluation

A. Course requirements

1. Students will spend a minimum of 40 hours in the field over the course of the semester.
2. Students will participate in all field discussions. Students will be encouraged to share experiences and reactions to field experiences with others in the class and will be expected to integrate class material and readings with their observations from the field.
3. Students will keep a structured field log that will include:
 - a. a summary of each day in the field, including client, agency, and community activities.
 - b. a discussion of the student's reactions to those activities.
 - c. when appropriate, examples of community linkage (Discuss how the agency and clients utilize services offered by other agencies and/or institutions.)

4. Students will complete a 4-8-page paper which provides an overview of their field placement agency. This paper should discuss the following:
 - a. services provided by the agency (including goals, clients served, and needs of the clients);
 - b. organizational structure of the agency, including titles/job descriptions of employees. Formal and informal tasks should be noted. If the agency is particularly large, students need only describe the administrative line which leads from the agency head to the students' assigned area.
 - c. the agency-community linkage. Describe how the agency uses other community services to provide for clients' needs when the agency itself does not provide the needed service. How is the agency funded?
 - d. Describe briefly a "typical" day for a BA-level worker at your agency.
 - e. Use APA style to cite all sources

5. Journal Article Reviews. With the help of Field Supervisors, students should select **scholarly journal articles** related to the work of their field placement agency. Each article must come from a SCHOLARLY JOURNAL, such as *Social Work*, *The Journal of Cultural and Ethnic Diversity in Social Work*, or *Social Work and Christianity*. (*Time*, *Newsweek*, *People*, *Social Work Today*, and *New Social Worker* are NOT scholarly journals. Reviews of non-journal articles will not be accepted. If you have questions regarding whether a certain source is a scholarly journal, please see the class instructor.) After reading the article, the student should summarize the article's findings and discuss why the article is helpful in understanding clients and /or agencies. This assignment must be typed and formatted APA-style.

6. Field Experience Grade (recommended by Field Supervisor, assigned by faculty): This grade will be based on the student's attendance, professionalism, and learning/growth over the course of the field experience.

7. Timely submission of required paperwork
 - a. Memo of Agreement & Malone-Agency Agreement
 - b. Evaluations and Time Sheets

The Sophomore Field Experience will provide approximately 30% of the final grade for Introduction to Social Work. Malone University faculty control the awarding of grades to students but Field Supervisor feedback, student discussion in field days and written fieldwork are taken into consideration.

Criteria for Field Experience Agencies

1. Provide social services to at-risk client population(s)
2. Have an interest in, and commitment to, the educational objectives of the Malone University Social Work Program.
3. **Have experienced and appropriate staff to serve as Field Supervisors.** It is recommended that the sophomore Field Supervisors hold a bachelor's or master's degree from a CSWE accredited university and a valid license to practice social work in the state of Ohio. In some situations (subject to prior approval by the Malone University Field Director) agencies which provide social services but do not employ staff with the credentials listed above may be utilized.

All Field Liaisons are asked to submit a copy of their current Ohio license and academic degree(s) to the Social Work Program Office at Malone University.

4. Be willing to provide appropriate opportunities for learning to the student as suggested in the section on Typical Assignments.

Policies to Promote Student Safety

1. Students are required to comply with their field placement's policy in terms of safety in their placement.
2. Students are required to meet campus Covid policies as well as any Covid related policy that their field placement may have.
3. In inclement weather situations, students are required to communicate with their field supervisor and determine appropriate course of action in terms of commuting to their practicum placement.
4. Students are required to comply with the NASW Code of Ethics in their field placement setting.

Student Responsibilities

1. Social work is a profession which often involves working with those who have been marginalized by others. It is critical to show clients dignity and respect. Such respect includes both being prompt and accomplishing the work that the social worker has agreed to accomplish with the client within an agreed upon timeframe. To assist students to become more proficient in accomplishing such important behaviors, all Malone University SWK faculty will expect that assignments to be completed on time and in the professional manner outlined in the student accountability guidelines listed below. Students who turn in assignments later than the day and/or time outlined in a syllabus, should expect that they will receive reduced credit for that assignment. Faculty can decline to grade late assignments.

2. The student should confirm that a criminal background check has been received and continues to be on file in the Malone University Administrative Services office.
3. Initiate initial contact with the agency and maintain communication as needed, including times when appointments or meetings cannot be attended as planned.
4. Attend all orientation sessions and scheduled visits.
5. Meet with the staff for assignments, supervision, evaluation, etc., as needed and requested.
6. Be at the agency on time, well rested, appropriately dressed, with an open mind, prepared to work.
7. Complete the assignments in a timely manner.
8. Conduct self in ethical, appropriate manner at all times (see NASW code of ethics in Appendix 1 at back of Suppes/Wells textbook for more information on ethical expectations of social workers.)

Field Supervisor Responsibilities

1. Be familiar with the educational objectives and requirements of the Malone University Social Work Program.
2. Within the time frame noted, develop a field learning contract with each student to meet the educational objectives, complete the Malone/Agency agreement and submit this to the Field Director.
3. Provide consistent and appropriate supervision, feedback and evaluation for the student.
4. Communicate with the Malone University social work faculty liaison if problems begin to develop.

Faculty Liaison and Seminar Instructor Responsibilities

1. Link the students and agencies.
2. Prepare the students for the field experience prior to the placement and monitor their performance through the seminar, journals, and papers.
3. Approve the learning contract developed by the student and Field Supervisor.
4. Provide group leadership for the students in the seminar.

5. Meet with the students as necessary in individual conferences.
6. Make contacts with the agencies via email, telephone, and at least one personal visit. Be willing to make further contact as needed/requested.
7. Assign a final grade for the experience based on the field supervisor's recommendation and student assignments.
8. Be willing to attend field liaison meetings and training when requested.

If Problems Arise

It is possible that problems will arise. The problems may be between the student and Field Supervisor, student and staff, student and clients, between students, etc. Problems are a normal part of the learning process. The goal is to negotiate a resolution to the problem in a professional manner. Problems should not be ignored.

Problems should be resolved at the lowest level possible. The student has the first and primary responsibility to identify problems which are affecting his/her field placement and education. In most cases, the student's first recourse should be to discuss the situation with his/her Field Supervisor.

Extraordinary issues that cannot be addressed with Field Supervisors should be discussed with the faculty liaison. Particularly difficult problems, including discontinuing a placement, will be discussed with the social work faculty liaison, the director of field education, and the department chair.

Problem identification and resolutions should be summarized as a routine part of the student journal and Field Supervisor/faculty liaison conferences.

Explicit Policies Regarding Termination from the Program

A student will be terminated from the program if:

- Student does not meet the academic requirements for admission/retention in the social work program as outlined above.
- Student is terminated from the school for academic or other reasons.
- Student fails to abide by the "student accountability" guidelines (as outlined in the **Social Work Program Handbook**)
- Student is found in ongoing violation of the NASW Code of Ethics while participating in a Social Work Program sponsored activity, classroom or field experience.
- Student fails to satisfactorily complete the Senior Field Practicum.

Social Work Faculty Information

Full Time Faculty

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Appendix 1

SOPHOMORE INTERNSHIP FORMS

Note: Electronic copies of these forms are available on-line at the Social Work Program website:

<https://www.malone.edu/academics/colleges-schools/theology-arts-sciences/departments/social-work/student-resources/>

Appendix 1A

Memorandum of Agreement

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

**SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN MALONE UNIVERSITY AND**

This Agreement made and entered into, effective as of the ____ day of _____, 20____, by and between MALONE UNIVERSITY (“the University”) and _____ (“the Agency”).

I. Preliminary Understandings

The parties acknowledge that it would be to their mutual benefit, and to the benefit of the communities which they serve, to cooperate in providing field social work experience and instruction for students of the University.

II. Term of Agreement

The term of this Agreement shall be from _____, 20____ through _____, 20____, unless earlier terminated, as herein provided, or extended by written agreement of the parties.

III. Responsibilities of the Agency

A. The Agency agrees that it will:

1. Prepare and execute the student learning contract, through the joint involvement of the student intern and the University Field Director.
2. Provide an Agency Field Supervisor having:
 - (a) a minimum of one (1) year of experience in the Agency;
 - (b) a minimum of an LSW and/or a BSW or MSW and two years of experience in social work. An LSW or LISW is required if in the state of Ohio.
 - (c) a demonstrated interest in social work education; and
 - (d) the commitment of at least one (1) hour a week to student supervision.
3. Provide the student intern with four hundred fifty (450) work hours for the Senior Student Intern, consisting of thirty (30) hours per week for fifteen (15) weeks, as determined by the Agency Field Supervisor.

4. Provide appropriate assignments that will give the student intern exposure to the Agency and its services.
 5. Provide assignments which foster and reflect student learning, growth and disciplined use of self in the helping process. The student intern should have opportunities to observe and participate in Generalist Social Work with individuals, groups, families, organizations and communities, as reflects the work of the Agency and as taught in Malone University's social work program.
 6. Provide ongoing evaluation of the student intern through weekly supervisory meetings, as well as throughout the week, as situations require.
 7. Complete the student intern evaluation form from the appropriate Field Manual and submit said document to the University Field Director as outlined in the appropriate field manual at midterm and at the conclusion of the placement.
 8. Complete and submit all appropriate evaluative tools as described in the appropriate Field Manual.
- B. If a student intern is to use a personal car for work (for example, for driving Agency clients), liability for such use rests with the Agency and/or student, with each being covered by appropriate insurance coverage satisfactory to the Agency and the University.

IV. Responsibilities of the University

- A. The University agrees to:
1. Prepare the student intern for generalist social work practice as articulated in the appropriate Field Manual.
 2. Assist the student intern in selection of a minimum of two (2) agencies with which to interview.
 3. Prepare the student intern for the interview process.
 4. Assist the student intern in finalizing the learning contract.
 5. Provide a weekly seminar for the student intern to process field experiences.
 6. Meet with the Agency Field Supervisor two (2) times during the semester:
 - (a) at the beginning to review the learning contract; and
 - (b) after midterm to process student evaluations and review the learning contract

V. Student Agreement

- A. The student intern agrees to:
1. Participate in the preparation of the learning contract, and in reviewing it with the Agency Field Supervisor, prior to final approval by the University Field Director or Field Liaison, and/or as described in the appropriate Field Manual.
 2. Report any absence from internship assignments directly to the Agency Field Supervisor, within the appropriate time frame set by Agency.
 3. Arrange with the Agency Field Supervisor for make-up time for internship hours missed.
 4. Complete all tasks as directed by the Agency Field Supervisor.
 5. Complete all tasks as directed by the University Field Director, and/or as described in the appropriate Field Manual, the SWK 440 syllabus or the learning contract.
 6. Maintain insurance coverage satisfactory to the Agency and the University, if driving a personal car for Agency reasons; and provide adequate written certification of such coverage, as requested by the University or the Agency.
 7. Adhere to current or future administrative and governing policies, rules, standards, schedules and practices of the Agency, the University and the Council of Social Work Education.
 8. Comply with any other applicable requirements as now exist, or as hereafter may be established, by the Agency or the University.

VI. Termination of Agreement

- A. Either the Agency or the University may terminate this Agreement upon ten (10) days prior written notice to the other party. If either party terminates this Agreement, best reasonable efforts shall be made by the parties to allow student interns then placed in the program at the time of termination to complete the current semester, in accordance with and subject to the terms set forth in this Agreement.
- B. In the event the operation of the University or the Agency is interrupted because of any cause beyond the control of the University or the Agency, this Agreement may be suspended by the parties so affected, without liability or prior notice, during the period of such occurrence.
- C. It is further understood and agreed by the parties to this Agreement that the Agency or the University has the right to terminate the internship experience of any student, upon determining that it is not academically, personally or professionally appropriate for such student to continue in such experience, or in the related University or Agency program. The final action regarding any such matter will not be taken until the pertinent concerns about the student intern have been discussed with the student and with the appropriate Agency and University personnel (if

reasonably feasible to do so); but such internship experience may be suspended at any time, pending further review and determination as herein provided.

VII. Miscellaneous Provisions

- A. Indemnification. The University shall hold harmless and indemnify the Agency, its officers, employees and agents, from any and all claims, demands, actions, liabilities and expenses arising from the performance of this Agreement by the University, except to the extent any such matter shall have been caused by the negligent or intentional conduct of the Agency, its officers, employees or agents. The Agency shall hold harmless and indemnify the University, its officers, employees and agents, from any and all claims, demands, actions, liabilities and expenses, arising from the performance of this Agreement by the Agency, or by the student intern, except to the extent any such matter shall have been caused by the negligent or intentional conduct of the University, its officers, employees or agents.
- B. Independent Contractor Status. At all times the relationship between the University and the Agency is that of independent contractors, and not joint venturers, partners, principal-agent, master-servant, or employer-employee. Neither party shall have any power to bind or obligate the other party in any manner, other than as expressly set forth in this Agreement.
- C. Insurance. Each party shall maintain adequate insurance coverage for the purpose of this Agreement and shall provide satisfactory written certification of such coverage upon request by the other party.
- D. Compliance with Law; Nondiscrimination. Each party shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local law in the performance of this Agreement. Without limitation of the foregoing, neither party to this Agreement shall unlawfully discriminate against any person participating in the performance of this Agreement on the basis of age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status.
- E. Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without the prior written consent of the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either party to this Agreement may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement to any corporate successor, or to any corporation which is the sole corporate member of such party, without consent of the other party.
- F. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be enforced and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Ohio.
- G. Notice. Any notice required or permitted hereunder shall be sent by certified or registered mail, postage pre-paid, or by facsimile, as follows:

To the University:

To the Agency:

Malone University

2600 Cleveland Ave NW

Canton OH 44709-3897

- H. Non-Exclusivity. This Agreement is non-exclusive, and the parties to this Agreement reserve the right to enter into similar agreements with other agencies, institutions, businesses or organizations.
- I. Third-Party Beneficiary. The parties do not intend that any individual receiving the services pursuant to this Agreement shall occupy the position of third-party beneficiary to this Agreement.
- J. Headings. The headings used in this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only, and they in no way limit or define the terms of this Agreement.
- K. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is found to be void or illegal for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect as if the ineffective or invalid provision never was included in this document.
- L. Waiver. The failure or delay of either party to exercise any right, power or privilege under this Agreement shall not operate as a waiver of that or any other such right, power or privilege.
- M. Entire Agreement; Modification. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties regarding the subject matter of this document, and supersedes and replaces any prior written or oral agreements regarding any such matter. This Agreement may not be amended or modified except by written document duly executed by both parties.
- N. Parties Bound and Benefited. This Agreement shall bind and benefit the parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the date(s) set forth below, effective as of _____, 20_____.

Agency _____

By (signature) _____

Title _____ Date: _____

MALONE UNIVERSITY

By (signature) _____

Title _____ Date _____

SOCIAL WORK STUDENT INTERN AGREEMENT

By signing below, _____ [print or type name], a Malone University student intern wanting to participate in an internship experience at _____, in connection with the foregoing Social Work Internship Agreement, agrees to be bound by, and to comply with, all of the terms and conditions set forth in Section V on pages 2 through 3 of that Agreement, as a condition of initial and continued participation in said internship program. The student intern understands and agrees that any violation of said terms and conditions, or any other substantially unsatisfactory conduct or performance by the student intern, may result in the immediate termination of the Agreement, the removal of the student intern from the internship site, and the student intern's failure to receive a passing grade in the pertinent course. By signing below, the student intern also acknowledges receiving a copy of said Agreement, and being given a reasonable opportunity to read it and ask any questions about it.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the student intern has signed this Agreement, in quadruplicate, each of which constitutes an original, on the date set forth below, effective as of _____, 20_____.

Student Intern Date

Witnessed by: Date

Appendix 1B

Covid-19 Policy and Consent Form

Malone University

Covid-19 Policy and Consent to Return to Field for Sophomore SWK Majors

As a student at Malone University enrolled in a field experience/clinical course, I wish to continue my education by completing my field/clinical experience as part of my program. As a member of the Malone University community, I have an important role to play in keeping myself, the Malone community and those that I will be exposed to as part of my field/clinical experience safe by doing my part to stop the spread of COVID-19.

I also understand that despite all reasonable efforts by myself, the university or the placement site that I will be completing my experience, I can still contract COVID-19 and other infections. In order to reduce my risk, I agree to be an active participant in maintaining my own health, wellbeing and safety, as well as the safety of others, by following all the guidelines and expectations outlined by the university and the placement site at which I will be completing my field/clinical experience.

Field Experience/Clinical Policy:

1. Students must take their temperature before leaving home. The CDC defines a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. If fever is noted, do not report to field/clinical site and contact your advisor and/or preceptor. CDC guidelines will be followed for your return to the facility.
2. Students must adhere to all facility policies and protocols.
3. Take all measures to reduce the spread of Covid-19.
4. All personal items (except those that can fit in your pockets) must be kept in your car.
5. If you become symptomatic while at your field/clinical site, immediately leave the site and contact Malone Health Services (330-471-8340) or your local health department for further instruction.

Take every day preventative steps (CDC, 2020)

- Wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Be prepared if your child's school or childcare facility is temporarily dismissed or for potential changes at your workplace.

Watch for symptoms (CDC, 2020)

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Or at least two of these symptoms:

- Fever
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally have mild illness.

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

*Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). Retrieved 5/6/20 from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

CONSENT FORM

Please check the appropriate box and sign this consent form.

I acknowledge my risk to COVID-19 exposure and **will** return to field/clinical experiences.

I **will not** be returning to field/clinical experiences at this time. I will contact Bekka Russell to coordinate a plan for future field/clinical experiences.

Student Signature

Date

Print Student Name

Appendix 1C

Student Learning Contract

STUDENT LEARNING CONTRACT - Sophomore Field Experience

Field Learning Contract

Name of Student _____

Cellphone # _____ Text: Y _____ N _____

Agency _____

Field Supervisor _____

Agency
Address _____

Agency Telephone _____

The objective of the Sophomore Field Experience is to introduce students to generalist social work techniques and social welfare institutions. The experience provides introductory exposure to social work, agency dynamics, and the social welfare policy. The goal of the Sophomore Field Experience is to assist students in evaluating their interest in pursuing a career in social work, as well as their potential for effective social work practice. The agency provides opportunities for students to be introduced to the agency and its role in the community.

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires Bachelor's level social work students to demonstrate proficiency in 9 distinct competencies by the time they graduate (CSWE, 2015). The sophomore level placement is the first opportunity for students to gain experience towards developing these competencies. The student learning contract is based on the 9 competencies and provides a broad framework for developing an individualized learning plan which is responsive to the needs of the student and the resources of the field agency. Each competency below must have at least one student task which relates directly to the competency. Sample tasks are included to assist students and Field Supervisors in developing appropriate tasks. Please do not hesitate to contact the social work field director, Bekka Russell, rrussell@malone.edu or 330-471-8480 if you have any questions.

Please note that students should be introduced to a broad range of experiences. Ideally, students should be exposed to social work intervention and practice at micro-, mezzo-, and macro-levels of intervention (individual, family or group, organizational and community levels).

CSWE Competencies and Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior</p> <p>Social workers understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards, as well as relevant laws and regulations that may impact practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Social workers understand frameworks of ethical decision-making and how to apply principles of critical thinking to those frameworks in practice, research, and policy arenas. Social workers recognize personal values and the distinction between personal and professional values. They also understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions influence their professional judgment and behavior. Social workers understand the profession's history, its mission, and the roles and responsibilities of the profession. Social Workers also understand the role of other professions when engaged in inter-professional teams. Social workers recognize the importance of life-long learning and are committed to continually updating their skills to ensure they are relevant and effective. Social workers also understand emerging forms of technology and the ethical use of technology in social work practice.</p>	<p>Student will learn about history of agency, its mission and how this mission fits within the history of the profession.</p> <p>Student will attend staff meetings.</p> <p>Student will discuss relevant laws that pertain to ethical practice within the agency with field supervisor.</p> <p>Student will discuss ethical implications of cases that are being presented or be asked to discuss the ethical concerns regarding clients with which the student was in contact.</p> <p>Student discusses observations of the roles of each agency representative after a case management meeting in which several agencies were involved.</p> <p>Student attends an in-service training at the agency or one sponsored by NASW.</p> <p>Student will review Ohio Code of Conduct and reflect on how it relates to agency practice.</p> <p>Student will discuss with supervisor ethical dilemmas that are common or relevant to agency setting.</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice</p> <p>Social workers understand how diversity and difference characterize and shape the human experience and are critical to the formation of identity. The dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including but not limited to age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. Social workers understand that, as a consequence of difference, a person's life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power, and acclaim. Social workers also understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and recognize the extent to which a culture's structures and values, including social, economic, political, and cultural exclusions, may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create privilege and power.</p>	<p>Student will interact with clients of diversity on a home visit.</p> <p>Student will participate in a group.</p> <p>Student will participate in cultural competency training.</p> <p>Student will discuss diversity and difference issues with field supervisor and journal about what is being learned.</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice.</p> <p>Social workers understand that every person regardless of position in society has fundamental human rights such as freedom, safety, privacy, an adequate standard of living, health care, and education. Social workers understand the global interconnections of oppression and human rights violations, and are knowledgeable about theories of human need and social justice and strategies to promote social and economic justice and human rights. Social workers understand strategies designed to eliminate oppressive structural barriers to ensure that social goods, rights, and responsibilities are distributed equitably and that civil, political, environmental, economic, social, and cultural human rights are protected.</p>	<p>Student will observe and participate in a social action project.</p> <p>Student will attend a court session.</p> <p>Student will provide entry level advocacy linkage, e.g. make phone calls to help find housing for a client, etc.</p>	
<p>Competency 4: Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice.</p>	<p>Student will read two professional journal articles that relate to field experience and write application papers.</p> <p>Student will utilize critical thinking skills to assist with a treatment plan for a client.</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>Social workers understand quantitative and qualitative research methods and their respective roles in advancing a science of social work and in evaluating their practice. Social workers know the principles of logic, scientific inquiry, and culturally informed and ethical approaches to building knowledge. Social workers understand that evidence that informs practice derives from multi-disciplinary sources and multiple ways of knowing. They also understand the processes for translating research findings into effective practice.</p>		
<p>Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice.</p> <p>Social workers understand that human rights and social justice, as well as social welfare and services, are mediated by policy and its implementation at the federal, state, and local levels. Social workers understand the history and current structures of social policies and services, the role of policy in service delivery, and the role of practice in policy development. Social workers understand their role in policy development and implementation within their practice settings at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels and they actively engage in policy practice to effect change within those settings. Social workers recognize and understand the historical, social, cultural, economic, organizational, environmental, and global influences that affect social</p>	<p>Student will read agency policy manual and governmental policies that effect agency practice and discuss implications with supervisor.</p> <p>Student will participate in a community meeting around the issue of health care policy.</p> <p>Student will assist with the development of an agency program.</p> <p>Student discusses with field supervisor how the mission of the agency impacts the agency, its clients, and the community.</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>policy. They are also knowledgeable about policy formulation, analysis, implementation, and evaluation.</p>		
<p>Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.</p> <p>Social workers understand that engagement is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers value the importance of human relationships. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to facilitate engagement with clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand strategies to</p>	<p>Student discusses cases with agency social workers to determine what theory informs the worker’s practice and why that theory is most suited to intervention for that client.</p> <p>Student attends an inter-agency collaborative meeting which focuses on micro, mezzo or macro level change.</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>engage diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may impact their ability to effectively engage with diverse clients and constituencies. Social workers value principles of relationship-building and inter-professional collaboration to facilitate engagement with clients, constituencies, and other professionals as appropriate.</p>		
<p>Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.</p> <p>Social workers understand that assessment is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in the assessment of diverse clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand methods of assessment with diverse clients</p>	<p>Student will review client assessments and case plans.</p> <p>Student will participate in a client assessment and help develop an intervention plan.</p> <p>Student will attend a neighborhood or community meeting.</p> <p>Student will participate in agency strategic planning session.</p> <p>Student engages with supervisor in a discussion of under-served population groups and barriers to service for those groups.</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers recognize the implications of the larger practice context in the assessment process and value the importance of inter-professional collaboration in this process. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may affect their assessment and decision-making.</p>		
<p>Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities</p> <p>Social workers understand that intervention is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are knowledgeable about evidence-informed interventions to achieve the goals of clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social</p>	<p>Student accompanies full-time workers to observe intake and ongoing client meetings.</p> <p>Student observes a task or therapeutic group.</p> <p>Student assists in the planning of a community meeting</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
<p>environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to effectively intervene with clients and constituencies. Social workers understand methods of identifying, analyzing and implementing evidence-informed interventions to achieve client and constituency goals. Social workers value the importance of interprofessional teamwork and communication in interventions, recognizing that beneficial outcomes may require interdisciplinary, interprofessional, and inter-organizational collaboration.</p>		
<p>Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities</p> <p>Social workers understand that evaluation is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. Social workers recognize the importance of evaluating processes and outcomes to advance practice, policy, and service delivery effectiveness. Social</p>	<p>Student discuss best practices with Field Supervisor as it pertains to the agency's clients.</p> <p>Student explores various evidence-based practices and discusses why/why not these practices would assist those served by the agency.</p> <p>Micro: Participate in case management services for an individual client.</p> <p>Mezzo: Participate in group session</p>	

Competency	<u>Examples of Typical Sophomore Level Tasks</u>	Agency Sophomore Level Tasks
workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in evaluating outcomes. Social workers understand qualitative and quantitative methods for evaluating outcomes and practice effectiveness.	Macro: Attend a collaborative meeting between agencies in the community	
<p>Malone University Social Work Program Core Competency #10</p> <p>Appropriately integrate Christian faith with professional social work practice and recognize the importance of spirituality to the human experience.</p>	<p>Write faith integration paper for SWK 222 and apply to field experience.</p> <p>Discuss how spirituality is implemented as an aspect of agency practice.</p> <p>Discuss spiritual value conflicts with supervisor.</p>	

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Field Supervisor signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Faculty Liaison signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Field Director signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Appendix 1D

Sophomore Field Experience Evaluation Form (Instructor)

**SOPHOMORE FIELD EXPERIENCE
EVALUATION FORM**

Completed by Agency Field Supervisor

Student _____ Date _____

Agency _____

Field Supervisor _____

The following evaluation points are based on the competencies from the learning contract completed at the beginning of the placement. Please look over the learning contract and tasks you expected of this student and use this form to evaluate the student's level of work in comparison to other sophomore level-students in their first social work class. PLEASE CIRCLE ONLY ONE WORD/PHRASE.

1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior.

Please Circle the word/phrase which best describes the level of student performance

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

2. Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice.

Please Circle Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

3. Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Please Circle Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

4. Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice.

Please Circle Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

Engage in Policy Practice.

Please **Circle** Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

5. Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.

Please **Circle** Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

6. Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.

Please **Circle** Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

7. Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.

Please **Circle** Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

8. Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.

Please **Circle** Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

9. Appropriately integrate Christian faith with professional social work practice and recognize the importance of spirituality to the human experience.

Please **Circle** Level of Student:

Unacceptable Needs Improvement Satisfactory Very Good Outstanding

11. Please discuss the student's performance in meeting his/her learning competencies as outlined by the Field Learning Contract. Please note specific assignments and how they were completed.

12. Please note specific areas of strength you observed in this student during field placement.

13. Please note any specific areas in which this student needs to improve.

14. Please recommend a letter grade for this student and provide a brief rationale for why this grade is the appropriate one. This grade should be a reflection of a typical sophomore level student, rather than a typical Bachelor's level social worker.

Circle one:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Excellent		Above Average			Average			Below Average			Failing

Rationale for grade recommendation:

SIGNATURE SHEET NEXT PAGE

**SOPHOMORE FIELD EXPERIENCE
EVALUATION FORM**

COMPLETED BY AGENCY FIELD SUPERVISOR

Student Signature

Field Supervisor Signature

Faculty Liaison Signature

Field Director Signature

This evaluation may be shared as needed for graduate school or employer references.

Field Supervisor Signature: _____ ***Date:***

Appendix 1E

Sophomore Field Experience Evaluation Form (Student)

**SOPHOMORE FIELD EXPERIENCE
EVALUATION FORM**

Completed by Student

Student _____ Date _____

Agency _____

Field Supervisor _____

Dates of Field Experience _____

Total Hours _____

* Please attach a copy of your Field Learning Contract to this evaluation.

1. Describe briefly what you did in field experience.

2. Describe at least three significant things you've learned about yourself, the helping process, your agency, the community, or the profession of social work.

3. Do you have any suggestions how services to clients might be improved at your agency?

4. Would you suggest the university place students at your agency in future years for a sophomore experience? Why or why not?

Student Signature

Appendix 1F

Sophomore Field Experience Time Sheet

**MALONE UNIVERSITY SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM
Sophomore Field Experience Timesheet**

Student Name: .

Field Site: .

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time in</i>	<i>Time out</i>	<i>Hours Worked</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time in</i>	<i>Time out</i>	<i>Hours Worked</i>	
							Total Hours	

I certify that the student has worked the hours recorded.

Field Supervisor:

Date: .

University Faculty Liaison:

Date: .

Appendix 2

CSWE EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

**NOTE: Information in Appendix 2
is taken from the CSWE 2015
Educational Policy and
Accreditation Standards**

(Accreditation Guidelines available in the Social Work Department upon request.)



Introduction

Accreditation is a system for recognizing educational institutions and professional programs affiliated with those institutions as having a level of performance, integrity, and quality that entitles them to the confidence of the educational community and the public they serve. The Commission on Accreditation (COA) of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Authority to accredit baccalaureate and master's degree programs in social work education in the United States and its territories. The COA is responsible for formulating, promulgating, and implementing the accreditation standards for baccalaureate and master's degree programs in social work, for ensuring the standards define competent preparation, and for confirming that accredited social work programs meet the standards. To this end, CSWE's COA administers a multistep accreditation process that involves program self-studies and benchmarks, site visits, and COA reviews.

The accreditation review process provides professional judgments on the quality of a social work education program in an institution. These findings are based on applying the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) promulgated by the Commission on Educational Policy (COEP) and the COA. The essential purpose of the accreditation process is to provide a professional judgment of the quality of the program offered and to encourage continual improvement. Moreover, systematic examination of compliance with established standards supports public confidence in the quality of professional social work education and in the competence of social work practice.

EPAS Revision Process

The COA and the COEP are responsible for revising the EPAS. The revision takes place in accordance with the CSWE bylaws, which mandate that the policy statement be reviewed by COEP "at periodic intervals not to exceed 7 years." CSWE's recognition by the Council for Higher Education Authority also requires that accreditors have a process whereby standards are reviewed periodically by the COA.

The most recent standards review process took more than 5 years and resulted in three drafts issued for public review and comment. The intent of the COA and the COEP was to solicit feedback from as many constituents as possible in as many ways as possible. The COEP and the COA would like to thank the programs, individuals, organizations, and communities of interest that provided feedback on all of the drafts.

The educational policy, which details the new social work competencies for the 2015 EPAS, was developed by COEP and approved by the CSWE Board of Directors on March 20, 2015. The accreditation standards were developed and approved by the COA on June 11, 2015. Programs that have reaffirmation reviews in October 2017 or later will use the 2015 EPAS to prepare their self-studies. Programs applying for candidacy in 2016 and beyond would use the 2015 EPAS for their benchmark documents.

For updated information about the 2015 EPAS, please visit www.cswe.org/Accreditation or send an e-mail to accreditation@cswe.org.

July 2015

Purpose: Social Work Practice, Education, and Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards

The purpose of the social work profession is to promote human and community well-being. Guided by a person-in-environment framework, a global perspective, respect for human diversity, and knowledge based on scientific inquiry, the purpose of social work is actualized through its quest for social and economic justice, the prevention of conditions that limit human rights, the elimination of poverty, and the enhancement of the quality of life for all persons, locally and globally.

Social work educators serve the profession through their teaching, scholarship, and service. Social work education at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels shapes the profession's future through the education of competent professionals, the generation of knowledge, the promotion of evidence-informed practice through scientific inquiry, and the exercise of leadership within the professional community. Social work education is advanced by the scholarship of teaching and learning, and scientific inquiry into its multifaceted dimensions, processes, and outcomes.

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) uses the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) to accredit baccalaureate and master's level social work programs. EPAS supports academic excellence by establishing thresholds for professional competence. It permits programs to use traditional and emerging models and methods of curriculum design by balancing requirements that promote comparable outcomes across programs with a level of flexibility that encourages programs to differentiate.

EPAS describe four features of an integrated curriculum design: (1) program mission and goals, (2) explicit curriculum, (3) implicit curriculum, and (4) assessment. The educational policy and the accreditation standards are conceptually linked to each other. Educational Policy describes each curriculum feature. Accreditation standards are derived from the Educational policy and specify the requirements used to develop and maintain an accredited social work program at the baccalaureate (B) or master's (M) level.

Competency-Based Education

In 2008 CSWE adopted a competency-based education framework for its EPAS. As in related health and human service professions, the policy moved from a model of curriculum design focused on content (what students should be taught) and structure (the format and organization of educational components) to one focused on student learning outcomes. A competency-based approach refers to identifying and assessing what students demonstrate in practice. In social work this approach involves assessing students' ability to demonstrate the competencies identified in the educational policy.

Competency-based education rests upon a shared view of the nature of competence in professional practice. Social work competence is the ability to integrate and apply social work knowledge, values, and skills to practice situations in a purposeful, intentional, and professional manner to promote human and community well-being. EPAS recognizes a holistic view of competence; that is, the demonstration of competence is informed by knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes that include the social worker's critical thinking, affective reactions, and exercise of judgment in regard to unique practice situations. Overall professional competence is multi-dimensional and composed of interrelated competencies. An individual social worker's competence is seen as developmental and dynamic, changing over time in relation to continuous learning.

Competency-based education is an outcomes-oriented approach to curriculum design. The goal of the outcomes approach is to ensure that students are able to demonstrate the integration and application of the competencies in practice. In EPAS, social work practice competence consists of nine interrelated

competencies and component behaviors that are comprised of knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes.

Using a curriculum design that begins with the outcomes, expressed as the expected competencies, programs develop the substantive content, pedagogical approach, and educational activities that provide learning opportunities for students to demonstrate the competencies.

Assessment of student learning outcomes is an essential component of competency-based education. Assessment provides evidence that students have demonstrated the level of competence necessary to enter professional practice, which in turn shows programs are successful in achieving their goals. Assessment information is used to improve the educational program and the methods used to assess student learning outcomes.

Programs assess students' demonstration of competence. The assessment methods used by programs gather data that serve as evidence of student learning outcomes and the demonstration of competence. Understanding social work practice is complex and multi-dimensional, the assessment methods used by programs and the data collected may vary by context.

The nine Social Work Competencies are listed below. Programs may add competencies that are consistent with their mission and goals and respond to their context. Each competency describes the knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes that comprise the competency at the generalist level of practice, followed by a set of behaviors that integrate these components. These behaviors represent observable components of the competencies, while the preceding statements represent the underlying content and processes that inform the behaviors.

Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

Social workers understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards, as well as relevant laws and regulations that may impact practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Social workers understand frameworks of ethical decision-making and how to apply principles of critical thinking to those frameworks in practice, research, and policy arenas. Social workers recognize personal values and the distinction between personal and professional values. They also understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions influence their professional judgment and behavior. Social workers understand the profession's history, its mission, and the roles and responsibilities of the profession. Social Workers also understand the role of other professions when engaged in inter-professional teams. Social workers recognize the importance of life-long learning and are committed to continually updating their skills to ensure they are relevant and effective. Social workers also understand emerging forms of technology and the ethical use of technology in social work practice. Social workers:

- 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 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; and
- use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior.

Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

Social workers understand how diversity and difference characterize and shape the human experience and are critical to the formation of identity. The dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including but not limited to age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. Social workers understand that, as a consequence of difference, a person's life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power, and acclaim. Social workers also understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and recognize the extent to which a culture's structures and values, including social, economic, political, and cultural exclusions, may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create privilege and power. Social workers:

- apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels;
- present themselves as learners and engage clients and constituencies as experts of their own experiences; and
- apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies.

Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Social workers understand that every person regardless of position in society has fundamental human rights such as freedom, safety, privacy, an adequate standard of living, health care, and education. Social workers understand the global interconnections of oppression and human rights violations and are knowledgeable about theories of human need and social justice and strategies to promote social and economic justice and human rights. Social workers understand strategies designed to eliminate oppressive structural barriers to ensure that social goods, rights, and responsibilities are distributed equitably, and that civil, political, environmental, economic, social, and cultural human rights are protected. Social workers:

- apply their understanding of social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights at the individual and system levels; and
- engage in practices that advance social, economic, and environmental justice.

Competency 4: Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice

Social workers understand quantitative and qualitative research methods and their respective roles in advancing a science of social work and in evaluating their practice. Social workers know the principles of logic, scientific inquiry, and culturally informed and ethical approaches to building knowledge. Social workers understand that evidence that informs practice derives from multi-disciplinary sources and multiple ways of knowing. They also understand the processes for translating research findings into effective practice. Social workers:

- use practice experience and theory to inform scientific inquiry and research;
- apply critical thinking to engage in analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methods and research findings; and
- use and translate research evidence to inform and improve practice, policy, and service delivery.

Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice

Social workers understand that human rights and social justice, as well as social welfare and services, are mediated by policy and its implementation at the federal, state, and local levels. Social workers understand the history and current structures of social policies and services, the role of policy in service delivery, and the role of practice in policy development. Social workers understand their role in policy development and implementation within their practice settings at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels and they actively engage in policy practice to effect change within those settings. Social workers recognize and understand the historical, social, cultural, economic, organizational, environmental, and global influences that affect social policy. They are also knowledgeable about policy formulation, analysis, implementation, and evaluation. Social workers:

- Identify social policy at the local, state, and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services;
- assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery of and access to social services;
- apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.

Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Social workers understand that engagement is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers value the importance of human relationships. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to facilitate engagement with clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand strategies to engage diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may impact their ability to effectively engage with diverse clients and constituencies. Social workers value principles of relationship-building and inter-professional collaboration to facilitate engagement with clients, constituencies, and other professionals as appropriate. Social workers:

- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies; and
- use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies.

Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Social workers understand that assessment is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in the assessment of diverse clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand methods of assessment with diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers recognize the implications of the larger practice context in the assessment process and value the importance of inter-professional collaboration in this process. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may affect their assessment and decision-making. Social workers:

collect and organize data, and apply critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies;

- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the analysis of assessment data from clients and constituencies;
- develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies; and
- select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies.

Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Social workers understand that intervention is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are knowledgeable about evidence-informed interventions to achieve the goals of clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to effectively intervene with clients and constituencies. Social workers understand methods of identifying, analyzing and implementing evidence-informed interventions to achieve client and constituency goals. Social workers value the importance of interprofessional teamwork and communication in interventions, recognizing that beneficial outcomes may require interdisciplinary, interprofessional, and inter-organizational collaboration. Social workers:

- critically choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies;
- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in interventions with clients and constituencies;
- use inter-professional collaboration as appropriate to achieve beneficial practice outcomes;
- negotiate, mediate, and advocate with and on behalf of diverse clients and constituencies; and
- facilitate effective transitions and endings that advance mutually agreed-on goals.

Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Social workers understand that evaluation is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. Social workers recognize the importance of evaluating processes and outcomes to advance practice, policy, and service delivery effectiveness. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in evaluating outcomes. Social workers understand qualitative and quantitative methods for evaluating outcomes and practice effectiveness. Social workers:

- select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes;
- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes;
- critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate intervention and program processes and outcomes; and
- apply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

Malone University Social Work Program Core Competency #10

Appropriately integrate Christian faith with professional social work practice and recognize the importance of spirituality to the human experience.

- Understand the Christian faith's commitment to caring for and empowering poor, disenfranchised, marginalized, and/or oppressed people groups
- Are able to articulate points of convergence and divergence between orthodox Christianity and the profession of social work
- Recognize the importance of spirituality to the human experience