

Field Education Info Session

2023/2024 BSW Field Education Candidates

Department of Social Work and Sociology



ANGELO.EDU

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Social Work and Sociology is to provide professional social work and social science education to a diverse student body for a global society.

What is Field Education?

- Signature Pedagogy—CSWE (Council on Social Work Education) defines Signature pedagogy as something that represents the central form of instruction and learning in which a profession socializes its students to perform the role of practitioner. As professionals we have norms with which we connect and integrate theory and practice and field is the way that Social Work can do that.
- It is required for Graduation from the program.
- Each Placement is divided equally into two semesters. (Split Placement)
- BSW students complete 235 hours in Fall and 235 hours in Spring.

Why is Field Education Important?

- Regarded as the capstone of the social work educational experience
- Focus shifts from *acquiring* knowledge to *applying* knowledge
- Students are provided with opportunities and experience.
- Students will successfully integrate theory into practice, thus learning to serve clients effectively.
- Upon completion of the field placement experience the students should be able to begin social work practice within an agency setting.
- Field experience helps students become professionals, learn how to utilize supervision, and learn how to work with clients.

Field Education Roles: Field Director

- Develop and maintain placement sites for social work students to complete their field education component.
- Update Field education forms.
- Review field applications and supporting documents.
- Establish standards for field education program, continuously looking at how we can improve the field education experience.
- Serve as consultant to students, faculty, and field instructors as needed.
- Monitor placement for quality of educational experience.
- Removal of students due to of violations of the B.S.W. Program Handbook, B.S.W. Field Education Handbook, or when requested by the field instructor

Field Education Roles: Field Liaison

In conjunction with the Field Director, the Liaison (Faculty):

- Serves as resource for student and field instructor.
- Monitors student activities and growth.
- Supports agency staff in their development as field instructors.
- Conducts telephone or office visits for all non-social work field instructors needing extra support and information.
- Provides supplemental supervision from a social work perspective for students with field instructors from other disciplines.
- Conducts two site visits per semester (completed remotely as needed).
- Coordinates field placement activities.
- In difficult or atypical situations, the Field Liaison will become aware of a situation and will contact the Field Director immediately.
- Conducts weekly field seminar.
- Oversees field seminar assignments.
- Serves as 1st point of contact for issues, concerns, successes and accomplishments.

Field Education Roles: Field Instructor/Task Supervisor

- Field Instructor requirements:
 - BSW degree & 2 years experience
 - If not, must have bachelors degree in related field, (psychology, sociology, nursing, criminal justice) and student will attend additional supervision for social work perspective.
- Task Supervisor
 - Oversees day to day task and provides support with field instructor
 - Advanced degree/licensure/significant experience in the field
 - Communicates student progress with field instructor

Field Education Roles: Field Instructor Continued

- Be familiar with the core competencies and practice behaviors.
- Be able to guide students in navigating the following:
 - NASW code of ethics
 - Texas State Board of Social work examiners (TSBSWE) Code of Conduct
 - TSBSWE scope of practice
- Create an atmosphere/opportunity for learning.
- Assure quality of service for clients.
- Be familiar with the field education handbook.
- Provide weekly supervision.
 - Required for hours to count!

Field Education Roles: Student

- Responsibilities:
 - Complete application for field in InPlace (Due 4/28).
 - Research agencies.
 - Interview; background check; other onboarding requirements.
 - Communicate with Field Director/Liaison.
 - Fill out field placement evaluation survey at end of placement.
 - Register for Malpractice Insurance (e.g., NASW Assurance).
 - Fill out expected schedule for field and provide field instructor with hours that they will be available to be at the agency.

Field Education Roles Continued: Student

- Responsibilities:
 - Be aware of agency policy and procedures.
 - Be aware of expectations of field agency, field instructor, and university.
 - Participate in supervisory sessions with field instructor—1 hour per week.
 - Identify learning objectives—will create a learning plan in InPlace in the first three weeks of the semester.
 - Ask questions and write down information because you may need it at a later time.
 - Take an active role in pursuing educational needs .

Why now?

- Placement process will occur over the Spring semester
 - Students without a placement secured at the end of this semester may not be ready to begin field in the Fall
- Can take months to finalize a new affiliation agreement
- Placements are competitive, both locally and in areas outside San Angelo

Will I be ready for Field this Fall?

- Students begin Field in Fall of their Senior year
 - View your [degree evaluation](#)
 - [Sample 4-year plan- BSW](#)
 - Students are required to enter Field with core social work courses completed
 - Intro to Social Work
 - Social Work Theory and Practice
 - Practice I and II
 - Human Behavior/Social Environment I and II
 - Social Work with Groups
 - Social Work Policy Practice
 - Social Work Research Methods I and II
 - Exceptions require Field Director approval.

Finding a placement (All Field Candidates)

- Research/explore potential agencies
 - List of agencies under Shared Documents in InPlace, United Way/211, NASW Chapter, Peers, Google
 - Review agency mission, goals, populations served, services offered (also location)
- Complete Field Application in InPlace
 - Listed in “To Do” until complete

Finding a placement (San Angelo Only)

After you complete your application in InPlace:

- Attend the Field Mixer on 4/13, 1pm-3pm, CJ Davidson Center
- Attend the Field Fair on 4/22, 12pm-3pm, CJ Davidson Center
 - Come prepared to interview (dress, resume, questions).
 - Students who attend will have an advantage in local placements.
- If you are still seeking a placement after the field fair, we will link you with agencies based on your preferences and agency availability
 - Students are then responsible for scheduling interviews.
 - If you're seeking a placement with an agency we do not already have an affiliation agreement with (not listed in InPlace), discuss with the Field Director ASAP

Finding a placement (Outside San Angelo)

- If you are seeking a placement in another area, contact agencies that interest you and locate a prospective field instructor
 - Remember to review field instructor requirements
 - Be able to explain what field is and what is required (hours, supervision, timeframe)
 - Remember you are competing with students from other programs
 - Remember to allow time for a new affiliation agreement if needed
- Interview with the agency
- If they accept you, complete the Interview Response Form in InPlace and email the Field Director.

Additional Field Forms

Professional liability insurance

- All students must have malpractice insurance before they are able to work with clients.
 - 1 mil/3mil or 1mil/5 mil
- If you do not obtain Malpractice insurance you will not be able to begin your field education.
- Several options are listed on the [BSW Field Education webpage](#)

Expectations for Field (including interviews)

- Professionalism
 - Adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, BHEC Code of Conduct, University and Program rules and standards
 - Wear appropriate attire
 - Be on time
 - Keep accurate records
 - Use professional language in all communication (email, voicemail, etc.)
 - Maintain professional boundaries
 - Treat your field placement as a professional job
 - Be respectful
 - Be prepared (always be ready to take notes)

More Considerations for Field

- Field Placements:
 - May be highly competitive
 - May require a criminal background check and/or drug screen
 - May require you to travel
 - Are not weekends and nights only
 - At your current place of employment are discouraged due to CSWE requirements and the complications that occur. However, this may be a possibility for placement under certain circumstances. Discuss with your Field Director.

Potential Problems with Starting Field

- Medical issues
- Background/Screening issues
- Schedule
- Unable to secure contract in time
- No placements available
- Family/personal issues
- Agency rejection or removal

- Not Passing a class

*If you anticipate you may be unable to begin field in time due to any of these issues please discuss with the Field Director

Field Education Sites (San Angelo Area)

- Concho Valley Public Defender's Office
- Shannon Outpatient Clinic
- Department of Family and Protective Services (APS/CPS)
- San Angelo ISD
- MHMR of the Concho Valley (mental health, jail diversion)
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of the Concho Valley
- Hope House
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Sagecrest
- Rust Street Ministries
- Workforce Solutions of the Concho Valley
- Goodwill
- Concho Valley Turning Point
- West Texas Boys Ranch
- Tom Green County District Attorney
- Legal Aid of Northwest Texas
- ASU Housing and Residential Programs
- Laura Bush Institute for Women's Health
- Open Arms Rape Crisis Center and LGQTQ+ Services
- Tom Green County Crisis Intervention Unit

*Additional sites and sites outside the San Angelo area are listed in InPlace

Important Links

- [InPlace Student Platform](#)
- [ASU Field Education](#)
- [BSW Field Education Handbook](#)

Reminders: To Do

- Complete field applications in InPlace
- Field Mixer- 4/13, 1pm-3pm, CJ Davidson Center
- Field Fair- 4/24, 12pm-3pm, CJ Davidson Center
- Check emails frequently for updates

Q&A



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