

Foundation MSW Student
Criteria for Competency Ratings for Practicum Evaluations
University of Washington School of Social Work

N = No opportunity to implement this activity or evaluate as yet: NOT APPLICABLE AT THIS TIME

- Plan focus of learning in this area in subsequent quarter(s).
- Contact Practicum Liaison if needed for help determining agency-specific activities to meet required objectives.

1 = Area of concern: Student unable to demonstrate effective learning in this area: IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS

- Unable to practice according to ethical, theoretical, or agency standards,
- Poor motivation, attitude, communication, attendance, or other aspect of required Essential Abilities (see Practicum Manual)
- Poor awareness of values, knowledge, and skills that build social work competencies.
- Unresponsive to supervisor, focused instruction, clear expectations and boundaries, guidelines, or learning priorities;
- Unable to understand or accept rationale for need for change or consequences of behavior (including possible termination);
- Unable to articulate cultural or other factors in communication and behavior, relationship or placement concerns.

2 = Achievement of competency in process: BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Developing sensitivity and understanding of client and systems problems and practice solutions;
- Able and willing to obtain and utilize information and feedback from others to improve practice;
- Building knowledge base; able to recognize, recall, and describe components of client needs and agency practice;
- Can identify and describe social work concepts used in addressing complex issues; building communication skills;
- Able to describe classroom learning as related to practice setting; learning to apply course content to field;
- Building comprehension of values, knowledge and skills related to human behavior in the social environment,
- Learning to conduct assessments and interventions and complete projects according to agency standards;
- Articulates growing self-awareness regarding own cognitive and affective responses to practice and learning.
- Uses supervision to address questions & concerns and to learn multiple practice approaches and perspectives.

3 = Competent at Foundation MSW student level: APPLYING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS EFFECTIVELY

- Able to articulate basic theories relevant to social work and agency practice; can discuss meaning of theories;
- Can articulate potential solutions for meeting client needs, especially regarding concrete services;
- Can apply knowledge and has developed skills for problem-solving at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels;
- Able to process information both cognitively and affectively, for planning increasingly complex services and tasks;
- Can implement assessments and interventions with varying degrees of independence and under supervision;
- Demonstrates an understanding of research and evaluation principles for own practice and program effectiveness;
- Demonstrates knowledge and skills in cultural sensitivity, awareness, and competence in practice;
- Communicates effectively with clients/constituents, colleagues, and other professionals, orally and in writing;
- Utilizes supervision to enhance professional development and the knowledge, values, and skills needed in practice;
- Demonstrates self-awareness of limitations, strengths, ethical challenges, and needs for further growth;
- Demonstrates professional behavior, ethical standards, and Essential Abilities in practice.

4=Exceeds competency expected of a Foundation MSW student: DEMONSTRATES MASTERY OF FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Demonstrates mastery of foundational knowledge and skills at micro, mezzo, and macro levels of social work practice;
- Able to explain, analyze, and interpret social work theories, frameworks, and perspectives to others;
- Uses knowledge in skillful, disciplined way, to assess clients or communities, analyze need, and implement services;
- Able to synthesize complex, abstract information and incorporate research knowledge into practice and evaluation;
- Demonstrates consistent ability to work effectively with other professionals, clients, and community members;
- Able to practice effectively across diverse populations, consistently demonstrating cultural sensitivity and competency;
- Demonstrates self-awareness in practice, understanding of strengths and limitations; committed to continuous learning;
- Displays excellent verbal and nonverbal communication skills; both oral and written;
- Consistently demonstrates professional behavior and incorporates ethical standards into practice.
- Demonstrates capacity for professional social work practice, using supervision effectively to plan and review practice.

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References:

- Anderson, L. & Krathwohl, D. (2001). A Taxonomy for Learning, Teaching & Assessing: A revision of Bloom's Taxonomy (NY: Longman).
- Bloom, Benjamin (1984). Taxonomy of Educational Objectives (Boston:Allyn & Bacon).
- Tourse, McInnis-Dittrich, & Platt (1999). "The Road to Autonomous Practice: A Practice Competency Teaching Approach for Supervision," Journal of Teaching in Social Work 19(1/2), 3-19.