



SWRK 329 - Social Work Practice in Agencies and Communities

MACRO PRACTICUM PLACEMENT

TASKS

The macro practice practicum placement focuses on helping the student to develop skills in working with communities and organizations. Assignments are therefore aimed at developing advocacy, organizing, and administrative skills.

Arrange/organize public meetings	Program evaluation	Direct outreach activities	Lobbying
Sustain the organization (creating materials, mailings, fundraising)	Community planning	Identify and understand decision making process & power structure of agency	Attending and testifying at legislative or public forums
Apply community organization methods	Grant writing	Social policy analysis	Address relevant power structure
Program planning	Administrative tasks	Research	Advocacy

OVERSIGHT BY SUPERVISOR

The focus of supervision is on the education/practice component with an emphasis on advocacy and organizing skill development, increased awareness of self as an advocate who utilizes ethical and knowledge bases for practice.

Overview meetings between student and practicum instructor should be conducted on a regular weekly basis. Student and practicum instructor should come to that conference prepared to discuss the student's work. The development of an agenda at the beginning of each session can be helpful in accomplishing the goals of the student and practicum instructor. In addition to focusing on student adjustment to the agency, development of work habits, and task accomplishment, meetings should include:

How to identify the power structure in the community	Practicing how to organize or advocate for a client system
Discussion of practice within the organization's structure, auspices, goals and objectives	Recognizing the ethical and value conflicts which arise in the course of organizing practice
Focus on the specific organizing techniques utilized by the agency	On-going assessment of the quality of the student's work and critique of the student's intervention
Focus on development of social policy/planning skills	Focus on how community organization methods and macro practice skills and how they are applied in diverse social, cultural, and political settings.
Understanding the community being addressed	Methods to make needed changes in the agency and organization to make it more responsive to clients' needs.