



MSW FIELD STUDENTS

FIELD EDUCATION

Part 1



GRADUATE STUDENT FIELD CONTACT PERSON

MSW Field Coordinator – Overall Field Contact

Monica Ascar, MSW, LISW-S

mascar@uakron.edu

Phone: 330-515-0600

Each campus has a member of the Field Education team that you may contact as needed:

Graduate Main & Stark

Rob Terry, MSSA, LISW-S

Polsky 410

Phone: 330-972-8790

Email: rpterry@uakron.edu

Graduate Wayne

Mark McManus, Ph.D., MSSW

Wayne C134

Phone: 330-972-5213

Email: mcmanus@uakron.edu

Graduate Lakewood

Monica Ascar, MSW, LISW-S

A131, Lakewood Campus

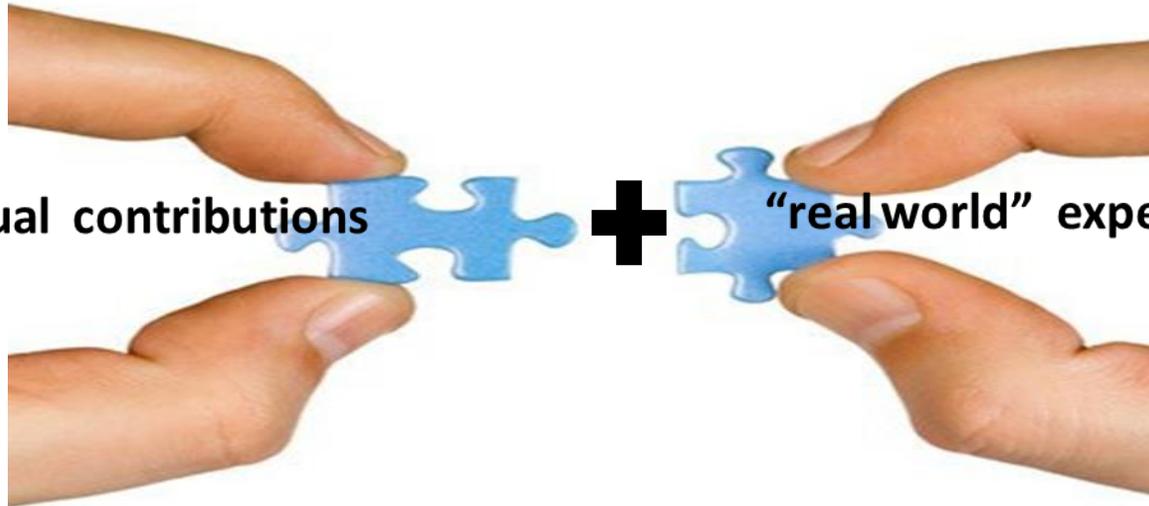
Phone: 330-515-0600

Email: mascar@uakron.edu

SIGNATURE PEDAGOGY IS FIELD EDUCATION

Represents the central form of instruction and learning in which a profession socializes its students to perform the role of practitioner

Theoretical & conceptual contributions

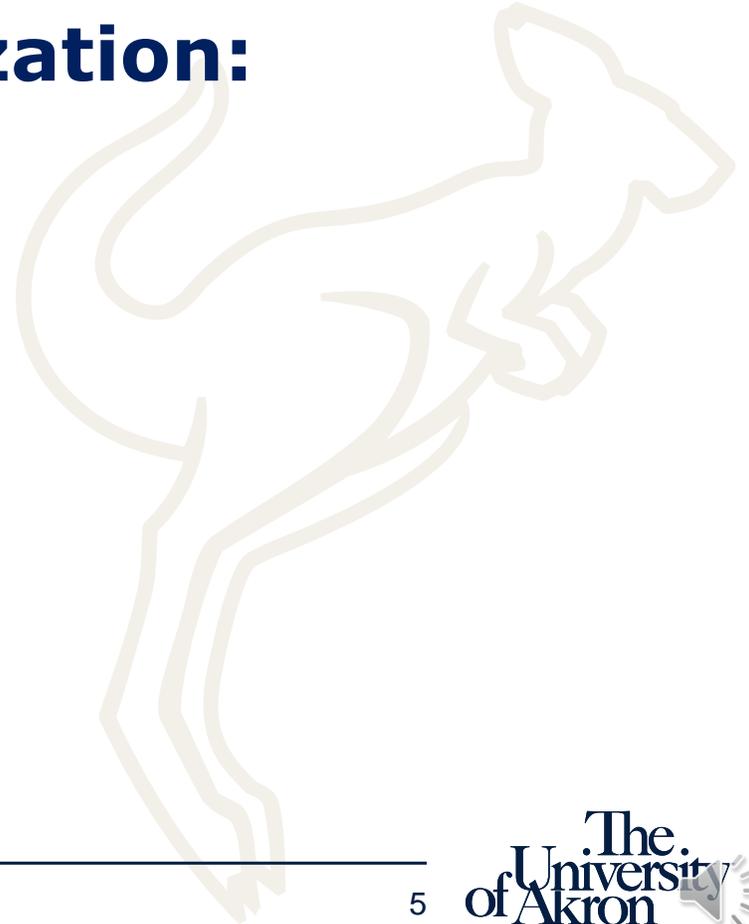


“real world” experiences

SIGNATURE PEDAGOGY IS FIELD EDUCATION

In addition to social work, other professions use this as a foundation of professional socialization:

- 1. Medicine**
- 2. Law**
- 3. Education**





FIELD EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS

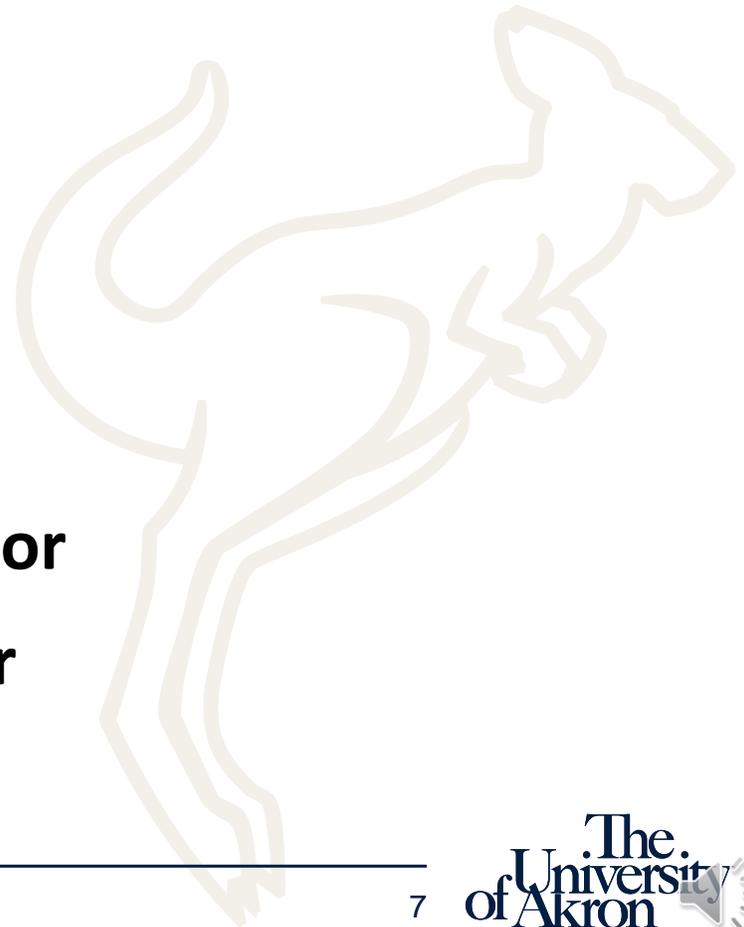


FIELD EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS FOR MSW

- Grade structure – Pass or Fail (Credit or No Credit)
- No Credit or Fail = repeat field education
- Credit = Pass

1 min hour of weekly supervision with field instructor

1 Required visit by Faculty Field Liaison per semester



FIELD EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS FOR MSW

- Two consecutive semesters
- Generalist (Foundation) students
 - Must complete **200** hours per semester- **16** hours per week
- Specialist (Concentration) students
 - Must complete **250** hours per semester- **17** hours per week
- 3 credit hours per semester for field education

FIELD EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS: GENERALIST (FOUNDATION) YEAR

- Two consecutive semesters
- Field begins at the start of the semester
- **Generalist (Foundation)-Full-time Student**
 - 1st year-1st placement
- **Generalist (Foundation) – Part-time Student**
 - 2nd year – 1st placement



FIELD EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS: SPECIALIST (CONCENTRATION) YEAR

- **Two consecutive semesters**
- **Field begins at the start of the semester**
- **Specialist (Concentration)-Full-time Student**
 - 2nd year- 2nd placement
- **Specialist (Concentration) – Part-time Student**
 - 4th year – 1st placement
- **Specialist (Concentration) Advanced Standing**
 - 1 year program – 1 field placement only



FIELD EDUCATION STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS FOR MSW



CORE SOCIAL WORK SKILLS

GENERALIST PRACTICE

**GENERALIST
PRACTICE**

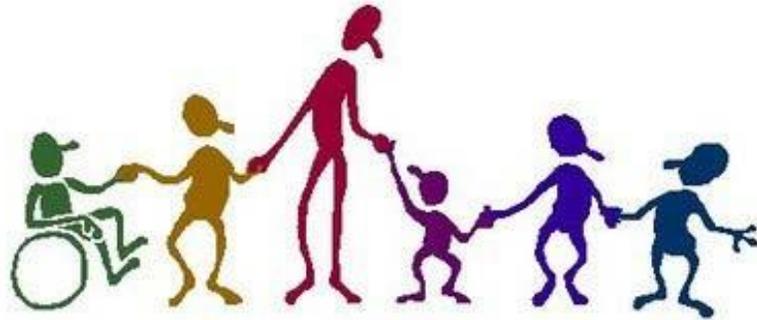
GENERALIST



FIELD AGENCY SITES

- **Community Mental Health**
- **Medical Centers | Hospitals | Clinics**
- **Residential Treatment Facilities**
- **Group Homes**
- **Recovery Centers**
- **Battered Women's Shelters**
- **Animal Sanctuary**
- **Geriatric facilities**
- **Schools**
- **Police Departments | Youth Services**
- **Community Centers**
- **Social Services Agencies**
- **Crisis Intervention**
- **Child Welfare**
- **Worksite**
- **Juvenile Justice**
- **Fire Departments**

MICRO/ MACRO



MICRO AND MACRO CLIENT SYSTEMS

- **Micro Client system** –individual, family, small group- problems solving| case-based research
- **Macro Client system**- organizations, neighborhoods, community development, administration, policy development/ implementations, program research



Ability to Engage
Ability to Assess
Ability to Intervene
Ability to Evaluate

POTENTIAL PRACTICE AREAS AND TARGET POPULATIONS

Target Audience

- Aging/Gerontology
- Alcohol, Drug, or Substance Abuse
- Child Welfare
- Community Planning
- Criminal | Juvenile Justice & Corrections
- Developmental Disabilities
- Domestic Violence| Crisis Intervention
- Family Services
- Group Services

Target Population

- Health| Community Health | Hospice
- Housing Services
- International
- Mental Health | Community Health
- Occupational
- Rehabilitation
- School Social Work

FIELD EDUCATION TERMINOLOGY

- **Field a.k.a. Field Placement | Practicum | Internship | Clinicals**
- **Field Coordinator & Field Contacts - University-based**
- **Field Instructor a.k.a. Field Supervisor - Agency based**
- **Field Faculty Liaison =Liaison – University-based**



SECURING YOUR FIELD PLACEMENT



SECURING YOUR FIELD PLACEMENT



1. Review field section of social website-
<https://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/field-education/>
2. Review deadline for required application materials
3. Field Placement must be secured prior to start of semester (failure to do so will delay start of field)

PLACEMENT FORMS AND PROCESS

Application packet should be submitted to the MSW Field Coordinator within two weeks of being assigned field orientation access:

- 1. MSW Field Application Packet**
- 2. Orientation Pre-placement Part 1 Signature page**

Second set of required forms are due after student completes interviews and selects agency (should be submitted NO later than one week prior to the start of the field semester)

- 3. Agency Acceptance form – completed by agency**
- 4. If needed: completed FAPE Proposal with appropriate signatures**

FIELD PLACEMENT AT PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT (FAPE)

- **Required completion of a proposal**
- **Field Instructor separate person from Employment Supervisor**
- **Field Placement & Employment hours may be the same or separate dependent on agency policy and the ability to link work tasks to competencies.**
- **Field Instructor = MSW/MSSA/MSSW + 2 years of post – educational experience and at least 1 year with employment agency**

SECURING A FIELD PLACEMENT

1. Visit Agency Roster - <https://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/agency-search.dot>
2. Review different agencies based upon areas of practice or location interests
3. Begin contacting agencies of interest to arrange interview
4. Be sure to also review the MSW Field Manual and Syllabus for your particular field course





INTERVIEW PROCESS



CONTACTING POTENTIAL FIELD AGENCY



Email first & follow with a phone call as needed

TEMPLATE EMAIL

Good morning/afternoon/evening Ms. Pitts,

My name is Sam Super. I am an undergraduate student at The University of Akron School of Social Work and Family Sciences. I begin my field education experience _____ (*identify which semester and year you will begin your field education experience, i.e.. Summer 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024*).

I am interested in scheduling an interview with you or the designated representative for your organization to discuss the possibility of securing a field placement (internship) with your organization. I am required to spend _____ hours per week in my field placement with a total of _____ per semester (*insert applicable information: 15 hours per week /225 hours for fall and spring or 17.5 hours for 13 weeks in the summer/225 hours*).

I look forward to an opportunity to discuss in more depth the alignment of my background and interests with the mission of your organization. I look forward to meeting you and learning more about the role and impact of your organization on our families and communities.

Sincerely,
Sam Super, UA School of Social Work Undergraduate Student

HELPFUL TIPS

Prior to your scheduled interview

- Check organization's website to ensure familiarity with mission statement and programs offered by your agency of interest
- Check the greeting on your voicemail ...confirm the professional tone. **Would your great-grandmother think the tone, the music, the words were respectable?**
- Identify your "interview wardrobe"- simplicity is safe. Take a look at yourself in the mirror- minimize any distractions- **What could be a potential distraction?**



VIRTUAL INTERVIEW TIPS

1. Practice before the interview
2. Prep your interview space (Do not allow the background to be a distraction)
3. Dress for success
4. Maintain eye contact
5. Speak clearly and use reliable microphone



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PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE AND BEHAVIOR

- Remember to smile – think about all you have achieved to get to this moment and be prepared to give the interviewer a reason to accept you as an intern
- Appropriate dress is important



YOU ARE UNKNOWN... FOR NOW!



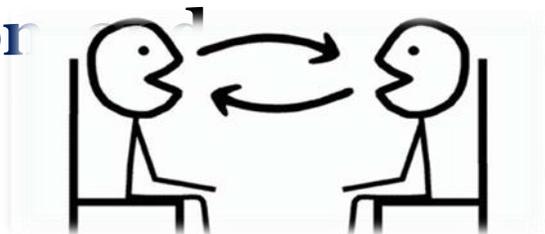
SOCIAL MEDIA

Check all social media accounts and confirm your account reflects the image that would encourage an organization to invest in your growth and development.



POTENTIAL QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. How can I (as an intern) assist your agency in achieving its mission statement?
2. Please describe specific direct practice opportunities I will have as an intern to develop four core areas: **Engagement, Assessment, Intervention, Evaluation**
3. The School of Social Work and Family Sciences requires a minimum of one hour of weekly supervision, is this feasible at this organization?
4. Please describe your “ideal” Undergraduate social work intern



POTENTIAL QUESTIONS THE AGENCY WILL ASK

1. Tell us about yourself.
2. Why did you pursue social work as a career? OR Why do you want to be a social worker?
3. What do you know about this agency or organization?
4. Have you had the experience of working with people of a race or sexual orientation different from yours?
5. Why should you be chosen for this role?
6. How will you ensure that your duty as a social worker is carried out to the highest standards possible?

IT IS TIME- BREATHE!

- Go forth – with **Courage**
- Interact- with **Compassion**
- Interview - with **Competence** as you demonstrate what you know about the organization, target population, and your school's field expectations.

FIELD TEAM IS READY FOR YOUR QUESTIONS

- Field Coordinator
- Field Contact Person
- <https://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/field-education/>
- Faculty Liaison
- Field Instructor
- Task Instructor (If Applicable)

