



School of Social Work

## **CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF FIELD INSTRUCTORS**

Field instructors are nominated by the agency and approved by the School to provide practicum instruction to students. Field instructors select specific student assignments and instruct students in the skills necessary to fulfill these assignments in relation to the student's course work.

Field instructors for BSW students must hold a BSW or MSW and have 2 years' post-social work degree practice experience in social work. Field instructors for MSW students must hold a MSW and have 2 years' post-master's social work practice experience. It is expected that field instructors have had formal training and experience in one of the school's concentration areas. Typically, the student is assigned to a field instructor on the basis of the student's major concentration choice. The instruction of the students can be shared between various agency personnel, but the School-appointed field instructor assumes overall responsibility for field instruction.

Field instructors must be on-site and on duty for at least 10 hours per week for foundation/generalist students and 16 hours per week for concentration students. During those periods when field instructor availability is not possible, other qualified staff members must be available for backup or consultation to the students.

Field instructors are strongly encouraged to participate in Field Instructor training provided by Clark Atlanta University, Georgia State University, and University of Georgia Field Education Collaborative. Detailed information about field instructor training workshops will be provided on a regular basis to all agencies that have a student assigned to them.

Person(s) nominated to be field instructor(s) should be agency staff member(s) who show:

1. Evidence of competence in the practice of social work
2. Concern for continuing professional development
3. Commitment to the teaching function of social work education
4. Possess interest in and have time available for regular instruction of students.