

March 26, 2020

Dear MSW Generalist Students,

In response to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, our accrediting body – the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Commission on Accreditation – has released new supportive measures regarding field education hours. In a recent statement, CSWE advised that programs are permitted to waive field hours in excess of the CSWE minimum field requirement. CSWE requires a minimum of 900 hours of field education for master's programs. Our MSW curriculum calls for 912 hours – 12 beyond the accreditation minimum requirement. Given this new information from CSWE, the SSW MSW Program faculty has voted unanimously to waive 12 hours for MSW generalist students during spring 2020. In addition to this step, we are further advised that students may factor field seminar time into their total count of field hours, a step that was previously prohibited. This will account for then an additional 26 hours for MSW generalist students.

In summary, for UGA MSW generalist students:

- Your new required hours total for MSW generalist field during spring semester is 228.
- Account for time spent in field seminar (SOWK 7125) on your time-sheet of practicum hours for spring semester 2020. This will total 26 hours for the semester. The timesheet template is available at <https://ssw.uga.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Time-Sheet-of-Practicum-Hours.pdf>

We are communicating with faculty liaisons and field instructors a parallel message, so that all impacted constituencies are similarly informed. Once you achieve the requisite number of hours for your generalist field practicum (228 hours). You may responsibly terminate with your assigned agency, clients, and constituencies. Field Office close-out tasks are indicated below.

1. Secure your electronically signed timesheet for spring semester 2020 reflecting **228 hours**. Submit a copy of this document to your faculty liaison and the field office by emailing it to sswfield@uga.edu. The timesheet template is available at <https://ssw.uga.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Time-Sheet-of-Practicum-Hours.pdf>
2. Ask your field instructor to complete the Final Field Instructor Evaluation of Student Generalist Competencies
 - a. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SDFQFXL>
 - b. Your completed evaluation will go directly to the Field Office. We will send it to your faculty liaison for distribution to you and your field instructor for their records.
3. Complete the student field placement evaluation available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WPVWYTV>
4. Complete the student evaluation of faculty liaison available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W6FHXKC>

Please let the Field Office know if you have questions. You may contact your faculty liaison or field coordinators. We look forward to continuing to support you.

Best,
Zoe M. Johnson