

FIELD EDUCATION

Field Options

The student, in consultation with his/her faculty adviser, has the choice of three field education curriculum models: 21-hour, 14-hour, or work study. Students in this field work model complete the same total hours (450), with the accompanying bi-weekly integrative seminar. The curriculum models are as follows:

- **21-hour field education:** This curriculum model consists of 21 hours of field education, usually scheduled three days per week, for a total of 420 hours in the agency and 30 hours in the integrative seminar for the academic year. Placement begins in September and ends in early May.
- **14-hour field education:** This curriculum model consists of 14 hours of field education, usually scheduled two days per week, for a total of 420 hours in the agency and 30 hours in the integrative seminar for the academic year. Placement begins in September and ends in August.

Students are expected to be available for field **during the agency's regular working hours**. This requirement provides the student the opportunity to participate in such learning experiences as staff meetings and professional consultations. Students who work are asked to plan early in their educational programs to prepare for field. Students are encouraged to discuss their educational goals with their employers and request accommodations in their work schedules to be available for field.

Employment-based Field Placements

Some students are able to meet their field education requirement through the social service agency where they are employed in a social work capacity. Students interested in this option should indicate this preference to the B.A.S.W. field coordinator. They are asked to speak first to the director of their agency or agency department to gain approval for this request. The program will then evaluate the agency's appropriateness as a field learning setting for the social work student.

In order to be considered for a employment-based field placement, the following criteria must be met:

1. Students must have been employed by the agency for at least six months prior to work study application.
2. Students must have a new learning experience different from their work responsibilities, as their field work component.
3. The supervisor must be a qualified M.S.W., with two years post-M.S.W. experience. This supervisor must be different from the student's work supervisor.
4. The agency must provide time for the field instructor to meet with the employee/student for a minimum of one hour per week, and to attend the SIFI course if it has not been taken already.
5. The agency must sign a work study agreement insuring that program's requirements can be met.