

2.3 Individualized Learning Contract for Advanced Internships

Kennesaw State University Masters of Social Work

Course _____ Semester _____

The learning contract or learning plan is developed jointly by the student and the field supervisor during the first two weeks of the field placement. The intent of the contract is to articulate how the student will achieve learning outcomes within the field experience. The assigned tasks/activities should be developed by addressing both student interests and field site expectations. A single activity may cover more than one learning objectives. As the student progresses through assigned tasks, his/her work needs to be evaluated. Methods of evaluating the student's performance are developed by the supervisor but should include student self-assessment as well as assessment by the faculty liaison in individual and/or group sessions and site visits. This contract will be modified as the student progresses through each semester. Significant substantive changes may need to be documented by the field supervisor and discussed with the faculty liaison. **All categories are completed for each year. In addition, those marked "advanced year only" are developed and accomplished during the advanced year in addition to the other learning goals. Students must demonstrate a higher level of goal acquisition in the advanced year that builds on those skills learned in the foundation year.**

STUDENT NAME: _____ FIELD SUPERVISOR: _____

FACULTY LIAISON: _____ AGENCY: _____

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.1 Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly	1. Readily identify as a social work professional;		
	2. Demonstrate personal use of self with clients;		
	3. Understand and identify professional strengths, limitations and challenges;		
	4. Develop, manage, and maintain therapeutic relationships with clients within the person-in-environment and strengths perspectives.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.2 Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice	1. Apply ethical decision-making skills to issues specific to clinical social work.		
	2. Employ strategies of ethical reasoning to address the use of technology in clinical practice and its effect on clients' rights.		
	3. Identify and use knowledge of relationship dynamics, including power differentials;		
	4. Recognize and manage personal biases as they affect the therapeutic relationship in the service of the clients' well-being.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.3 Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments	1. Engage in a reflective practice.		
	2. Identify and articulate clients' strengths and vulnerabilities;		
	3. Critically analyze multidimensional assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation tools;		
	4. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of multiple theoretical perspectives and differentially apply them to client situations; and		
	5. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, colleagues, and professionals from other disciplines.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.4 Engage diversity and difference in practice.	1. Research and apply knowledge of diverse populations to enhance client well-being.		
	2. Work effectively with diverse populations.		
	3. Identify and use practitioner/client differences from a strengths perspective.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.5 Advance human rights and social and economic justice	1. Understand and use knowledge of effects of oppression discrimination and historical trauma on client and client systems to guide treatment planning and intervention; and		
	2. Advocate on multiple levels for mental health parity and reduction of health disparities for diverse populations;		
	3. Engage in practices that advance social and economic justice.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.6 Engage in research informed practice and practice informed research	1. Use the evidence-based practice process in clinical assessment and intervention with clients;		
	2. Participate in the generation of new clinical knowledge, through research and practice; and		
	3. Use research methodology to evaluate clinical practice effectiveness and/or outcomes.		
2.1.7 Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment	1. Synthesize and differentially apply theories of human behavior and the social environment to guide clinical practice;		
	2. Use bio-psycho-social-spiritual theories and multiaxial diagnostic classification systems in formulation of comprehensive assessments; and		
	3. Consult with medical professionals, as needed, to confirm diagnosis and/or to monitor medication in the treatment process.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.8 Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver social work services	1. Communicate to stakeholders the implication of policies and policy change in the lives of clients.		
	2. Use evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence in advocacy for policies that advance social and economic well-being; and		
	3. Advocate with and inform legislators to influence policies that impact clients and service.		
2.1.9 Respond to contexts that shape practice	1. Assess the quality of clients' interactions within their social contexts;		
	2. Provide leadership in promoting sustainable systematic changes in service delivery and practice to improve the quality of social services.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
2.1.10 Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.	(a) Engagement 1. Develop culturally responsive therapeutic relationships with your specialty group;		
	2. Address the interpersonal dynamics and ecological factors that strengthen and threaten the therapeutic alliance with your specialty group; and		
	3. Build relationships with clients as equal participants together to establish treatment goals and outcomes with your specialty group.		
	(b) ASSESSMENT 1. Apply multidimensional bio-psycho-social-spiritual assessment tools with your specialty group;		
	2. Assess client strengths, and limitations; and readiness for change with your specialty group;		
	3. Assess client coping strategies and resilience factors to strengthen and advance their adjustment to life situations, circumstances, and events with your specialty group;		
	4. Select appropriate intervention strategies and modify strategies as appropriate based on continuous clinical assessments with your specialty group; and		
	5. Apply differential diagnosis based on current Diagnostic Statistical Manual.		

Competency	Practice Behavior	What Tasks/Activities Will You Implement	How Will You Evaluate Progress/Completion?
	(c) INTERVENTION 1. Evaluate, select, and apply best practices and evidenced based interventions with your specialty group;		
	2. Apply appropriate clinical techniques for a range of presenting concerns identified in assessment of with your specialty group; and		
	3. Demonstrate crisis intervention strategies as appropriate for with your specialty group;		
	4. Collaborate with other professionals and agency personnel in coordinating treatment interventions when working with your specialty group.		
	(d) EVALUATION 1. Contribute to the theoretical knowledge base of the social work profession through practice-based research for your specialty group; and		
	2. Apply clinical evaluation of the process and/or outcomes to develop best practice interventions for a range of bio-psycho-spiritual conditions with your specialty group.		

Student Signature **Date**

Field Supervisor Signature **Date**

Approved: _____
Faculty Liaison Signature

Semester: _____, 20_____

The learning contract is to be submitted to your faculty liaison by the assigned due date. When the learning contract is approved by Your faculty liaison, the student is to maintain a copy of this document and provide a signed copy to the field supervisor, the Faculty Liaison and the Office of Field Education.