

**Major Field Assessment Plan
B.A. in Social Work
Spring 2009**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to lead the educational, economic, and cultural development of Southeast Louisiana, through the core values of excellence, caring, community, diversity, integrity, learning, scholarship, and service.

The mission of the Social Work Program is to provide quality education and training for generalist social work practitioners who will be employed in entry level social work positions or who will experience success in graduate social work education or related educational programs.

The Social Work Program emphasizes a generalist practice model adaptable to planning and implementing interventions in micro, mezzo, and macro level systems. The program content is designed to enhance human well-being and alleviate poverty, oppression, and other forms of social injustice. The program teaches skills necessary for working with diverse populations and populations at risk. The course work and field instruction components increase awareness of the social functioning of individuals, groups, families, and communities impacted by the effects of rural poverty, especially in Southeast Louisiana. The program trains students in empowerment strategies, advocacy roles, policy practice approaches, and research methodologies. The field experience (e.g., internship) promotes the integration of the ethics, values, skills, and knowledge base of the social work profession.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: To provide students with a quality degree program representative of the body of knowledge in the field of Social Work.

Objective: Sixty percent of the students graduating in SW will indicate on the Exit Survey and the Alumni Survey that they are satisfied with the overall quality of the SW program.

Results: One-hundred percent of students graduating in 2007-2008 indicated they were satisfied with the overall quality of the degree program (Exit Survey item # 24, pg. 101).

Ninety percent of students who graduated in 2003-2004 indicated they were satisfied with the overall quality of the SW program (Alumni Survey pg. 98).

Goal 2: To provide students with a quality experience in practicum, internship, clinical, or other hands-on training outside of the classroom.

Objective: Sixty percent of the students graduating in SW will indicate on the Exit Survey and the Alumni Survey that they are satisfied with the overall experience in practicum, internship, clinical, or other hands-on training outside of the classroom.

Results: Ninety-two percent of graduating seniors in 2007-2008 indicated they were satisfied with the overall experience in practicum, internship, clinical, or other hands-on training outside of the classroom (Exit Survey item # 31, pg. 102).

Eighty-six percent of students who graduated in 2003-2004 indicated they were satisfied with the overall experience in practicum, internship, clinical, or other hands-on training outside of the classroom (Alumni Survey pg. 101).

Goal 3: To provide quality instruction and advising in the field of Social Work.

Objective: Sixty percent of the students graduating in SW will indicate on the Exit Survey and the Alumni Survey that they were satisfied with the effectiveness of faculty as teachers and the academic advising received from their SW advisor.

Results: One-hundred percent of students graduating in 2007-2008 indicated they were satisfied with the effectiveness of faculty as teachers (Exit Survey item # 3, pg. 98). Ninety-two percent of students graduating indicated satisfaction with the academic advising they received from their SW advisor (Exit Survey item # 26, pg. 101).

Eighty-two percent of students who graduated in 2003-2004 indicated they were satisfied with the effectiveness of faculty as teachers (Alumni Survey pg. 98). Sixty eight percent of students who graduated indicated satisfaction with the academic advising they received from their SW advisor (Alumni Survey pg. 98).

Goal 4: To provide students with experiences in the use of computer resources, technology in the classroom and facilities and equipment appropriate in the field of Social Work.

Objective: Sixty percent of the students graduating in SW will indicate on the Exit Survey and the Alumni Survey satisfaction with the computer resources, technology in the classroom and facilities and equipment appropriate in the field of SW.

Results: Eighty-five percent of the students graduating in 2007-2008 indicated satisfaction with the computer resources, technology in the classroom and facilities and equipment appropriate in the field of SW (Exit Survey item # 17, pg. 100).

Sixty-eight percent of students who graduated in 2003-2004 indicated satisfaction with the computer resources, technology in the classroom and facilities and equipment appropriate in the field of SW (Alumni Survey pg. 100).

Goal 5: The Social Work Program will prepare competent and effective generalist social work practitioners to work effectively with diverse individuals, groups, families, organizations, and small communities in rural areas and yet assure they will be well versed in global and international ramifications of contemporary social and political realities.

Objective: The mean grade earned by all students from SW 205, 304, 305, 406, 497 and/or 498 will be greater than or equal to 2.5 quality points.

Results: Based on grade reports from fall 2007, spring 2008, and fall 2008 this goal was met.

Class	Mean Grade of students for each course 2007-2008
SW 205	3.13
SW 304	3.91
SW 305	3.63
SW 406	3.34
SW 497	3.94
SW 498	3.95

Goal 6: Social work degree candidates will be able to engage in critical analysis, synthesis of research data, and intervention planning necessary for effective participation as professionals in the local, national, international, and global community within which they will work and serve.

Objective: The mean grade earned by all students from SW 402, 406, 360, 361, 497 and/or 498 will be greater than or equal to 2.5 quality points.

Results: Based on grade reports from fall 2007, spring 2008, and fall 2008 this goal was met.

Class	Mean Grade Average of 30 students total for each course 2005-2006
SW 402	3.69
SW 406	3.34
SW 360	3.50
SW 361	3.44
SW 497	3.94
SW 498	3.95

Goal 7: Students will understand the generalist intervention model and its application to work with individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities – rurally as well as globally.

Objective: A mean grade of a 3.0 quality points or better for all students enrolled in Social Work Internship (SW498) each academic year is used as a referent of the program's effectiveness in training students in the use of the generalist practice model.

Results: Based on the information obtained from the 2007-2008 grade reports this goal was met. The mean grade for all students was a 3.95.

Objective: During regularly scheduled visits to Internship sites, the Director of Field Work, or a designated representative, asks the Field Supervisor to rate their student's ability to apply the generalist model to their assigned cases. This goal is accomplished if 90% or more of the Field instructors surveyed rate their students as either "meeting" or "exceeding" the agency's expectations for applying the generalist model to cases involving actual clients.

Results: Data is not yet available for this measure.

Goal 8: The Social Work Program will prepare students to understand, apply, and promote the values, ethics, purposes, and goals of the Social Work Profession.

Objective: Sixty percent of the students graduating in SW will indicate on the Exit Survey and the Alumni Survey satisfaction with the quality of instruction regarding standards and ethics in the field of SW.

Results: One-hundred percent of students graduating in 2007-2008 indicated they were satisfied with the quality of instruction regarding standards and ethics in the field of SW (Exit Survey item # 13, pg. 99).

Ninety-five percent of students who graduated in 2003-2004 indicated they were satisfied with the quality of instruction regarding standards and ethics in the field of SW (Alumni Survey pg. 100).

Objective: Graduating students will score within two standard deviations of the national average on the Baccalaureate Education Assessment Project's (BEAP) Social Work Values Inventory (SWVI) Exit Survey.

Results: The Social Work Values Inventory (both the Entrance and Exit versions) is being discontinued at this time, therefore, we were not able to obtain the results. The author of the instrument explains that it is due for a "tune-up". BEAP users have provided much needed feedback on this instrument over the eight years, the instrument has been put to use, and it is time for revision. Unlike the other four BEAP instruments, a revision of the SWVI will require reliability testing, necessitating some "down time".

Goal 9: Social work students will be adequately prepared for agency

employment in a variety of social service agencies, especially those in rural areas and small communities.

Objective: Fifty percent of students will indicate full-time employment on the Alumni Survey.

Results: Eighty percent of students who graduated in 2003-2004 reported full-time employment in a variety of social service settings (e.g., service organization, K-12 education, nonprofit organization government, and health agency) (Alumni Survey pg. 108).

Review of Results and Changes

As evident in the results, the Social Work program was able to meet and/or exceed all outlined objectives. The program is providing students with a quality social work education. An area of particular strength was highlighted in that one-hundred percent of graduating students and ninety percent of students who had graduated both indicated that they were satisfied with the overall quality of the Social Work program. Additionally, one-hundred percent of graduating students reported that they were satisfied with the effectiveness of faculty as teachers. High scores were also obtained in relation to satisfaction with the overall experience in the internship practicum. In terms of the acquisition of social work values and ethics, students indicated that they were satisfied with the quality of instruction surrounding these topics. Lastly, mean grade averages in relation to courses that prepared students for effective and competent generalist social work practice all fell above the objective score of 2.5. This indicated mastery of course content in the areas of diversity, group work, families, organizations, and small communities with an emphasis on critical analysis, synthesis of research, and intervention planning.

However, it is important to note areas in need of improvement. These areas include technology in the classroom and academic advising. In terms of technology in the classroom, this has currently been addressed at the departmental level. At the beginning of the 2008-2009 academic year, the social work program moved into White Hall, which has classrooms as well as faculty offices. All of the program's classes are offered in White Hall, which has state of the art technology available. These are either stationery in the room or on carts which can be rolled from room to room. The Department of Counseling and Human Development has acquired new technology for use in classrooms (e.g., laptops, projectors, smart boards, etc.). In relation to academic advising, from fall 2008, a new plan was adopted, based upon the new requirements set forth by the university related to the Center for Student Excellence and new mentoring guidelines. The plan will also take into consideration the number of advisees to advisors in order to remain in compliance with the Social Work program's accrediting body, the Council on Social Work of Education. The current assessment utilized the information from the 2003-2004 alumni survey, because

more recent statistics were not available.