

School of Social Work

Course Outline

SOWK 315

The UBC School of Social Work acknowledges that we are located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the [xʷməθkʷəy̓əm](#) (Musqueam) people.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Arts

arts.ubc.ca

School Vision

Building upon a foundation of social justice and an ethic of care, we are a community of learners actively engaged in the development of critical, transformative knowledge for social work practice.

BSW Mission

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program addresses issues of power and issues of discrimination based on age, race, gender, sexual orientation, class and culture. The educational objective of the BSW curriculum is to provide students with the knowledge, values and skills necessary for an initial level of professional practice, focusing on the interface between personal problems and public issues. Critical thinking and structural analysis are central to the learning experience offered by the School and to the promotion of social justice and human well-being.

Course Info

Year/Term	Terms 1 & 2, Winter 2021-22
Course Title	SOWK 315: Practicum I
Credit Value	6 credits
Course Schedule	Field Days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting mid October, Term 1 Exact start date to be negotiated with agency. 350 hours
Course Location	Host agency

Instructor	Office Location	Office Phone	Email Address
Kelly Allison Chair of Field Education	Room 233	604.822.2255	kelly.allison@ubc.ca
Jacky Coates Field Education Coordinator	Room 116	604.822.5302	sw.field@ubc.ca
Tina Buttar Field Education Coordinator	Room 116	604.822.2977	sowk.fieldeducation@ubc.ca
Faculty liaisons: Section 001 Miu Chung Yan	Room 235	Contact by email	miu.yan@ubc.ca
Section 002 Olivia Palomino Meraz	Room 223	Contact by email	ev10oli@mail.ubc.ca
Section 003 Rhea Del Vecchio	By appointment	Contact by email	rhea.Delvecchio@ubc.ca

Course Description

The purpose of SOWK 315 is to learn the core elements of social work, with a focus on macro social work practice and social justice. All students will be placed in a community agency and will contribute to community priorities and the amelioration of complex community-based challenges. The practicum experience will also support the development of competencies necessary for generalist social work practice.

Learning Outcomes

The 9 core learning objectives for students found in the Canadian Association of Social Work Education (CASWE) Council on Accreditation Standards (page 10) form the basis for evaluation in all programs.

Specifics will vary according to the student's program (third year or fourth year BSW, MSW), personally identified learning goals, specific placement and agency, within the 9 areas highlighted below.

1. Identify as a professional social worker and adopt a value perspective of the social work profession.
2. Adhere to social work values and ethics in professional practice.
3. Promote human rights and social justice.
4. Support and enhance diversity by addressing structural sources of inequity.
5. Employ critical thinking in professional practice.
6. Engage in research.
7. Participate in policy analysis and development.
8. Engage in organizational and societal systems change through professional practice.
9. Engage with individuals, families, groups and communities through professional practice.

Four key areas guide the development of learning objectives and learning activities for field placements: (1) Placement context, (2) Placement content, (3) Personal and professional development and (4) Agency expectations. These key areas align with the above CASWE learning objectives.

Course Evaluation

Students, in conjunction with their field instructor will post the learning activities that will meet the learning objectives outlined on the Intern Placement Tracking platform (IPT) within four weeks of starting practicum. These learning objectives and outlined evidence of achievement form the basis for evaluation throughout the practicum experience.

Evaluations of learning objectives and evidence of achievement are completed formally by the field instructor and student twice during the practicum – the Midterm Practice Performance Evaluation and the Final Practice Performance Evaluation. The field instructor and student will complete the Midterm Performance Evaluation form prior to the completion of approximately one-half the hours of the placement and 'sign' the form, which will then be reviewed and signed by the faculty liaison. The Final Performance Evaluation Form will similarly be completed within one week of the completion of the

required hours. The hours tally sheet should be completed daily, and 'signed' at the completion of practicum by the student, the field supervisor, and the faculty liaison.

The faculty liaison will meet with the student and field instructor two times (in person or virtually) during the practicum. The specific times will be mutually negotiated, but usually two of beginning, middle, and end of practicum.

SOWK 315 is graded as a Pass or Fail. The faculty liaison assigns the standing, taking into consideration the field instructor's evaluation and recommendation. A grade will only be submitted when all assignments, evaluations and hours tally sheets have been signed off by the student, the field instructor, and the faculty liaison.

Course Schedule and Attendance

UBC School of Social Work normally requires students to complete 350 hours for their 3rd year placement and 378 hours for their 4th year placement, to meet the requirement of the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) of 700 minimum hours of practicum for the BSW degree. Due to COVID-19, CASWE has allowed schools to reduce these requirements to 75% of the usual hours for field education until April 2021. The UBC School of Social Work wants students to have a robust field learning experience and therefore we are aiming for students to complete the full 350 hours unless prevented from doing so by public health issues related to COVID-19. Please plan to complete 350 hours in your practicum unless otherwise discussed with your Faculty Liaison.

Practicum days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting mid-October and continuing until around the end of March. Changes to the practicum schedule need to be discussed and approved by faculty liaison and field supervisor.

Full and consistent attendance is required in practicum based on the hours the agency is open, and the required number of hours per day as set and as negotiated with the field instructor.

Students are allowed one day per term for illness without a make-up requirement. In those circumstances, the student must notify the field supervisor, or designate, as soon as possible. If further leave time is required, both the faculty liaison and the field supervisor must be notified, and hours made up. For an extension of deadline, all parties must agree to a make-up arrangement, including a new deadline. Time taken off for personal reasons must be approved by the field supervisor and faculty liaison and no credit for hours will be received.

University Policies

Support

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on the [UBC Senate website](#).

Academic Dishonesty

Please review the UBC Calendar “Academic regulations” for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit <http://www.arts.ubc.ca> and go to the students’ section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation.

Retaining Assignments: Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss) and should also retain all their marked assignments in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standing. Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

FURTHER DETAILS FOR FIELD PRACTICUM ACROSS ALL PROGRAMS CAN BE FOUND IN THE FIELD EDUCATIONAL MANUAL AT <http://socialwork.ubc.ca/field-education-2/>