

Fall 2020 Plan for VAC 699B Students

As COVID-19 continues to impact communities across the U.S., the Field Education Department continues to assess how to support student learning in field and remain vigilant in regards to student health and safety. This document provides guidance to VAC students completing SOWK 699B (*Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education*) in fall 2020.

Required field hours for Fall 699b Students

In accordance with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) response to the pandemic, the Field Education Department is offering the opportunity for students in good academic standing (including field) and in 699B for the fall 2020 semester to waive up to 83 hours of their field practicum. The 83 hours represent 15% of the 550 hours expected in the final two semesters of field education. Eligible students must meet expected proficiency levels for all nine competencies and complete SOWK 699B (*Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education*) field placement requirements to receive a grade of Credit. If hours are **approved** to be waived by their field instructor **and** field faculty liaison, the final comprehensive skills evaluation can be completed as evidence that the student has successfully met their field placement requirements.

Field placement requirements refer to the following:

- MSW student interns participate in appropriate termination with clients and agency with plans in place for continuity of care for clients. The NASW professional code of ethics requires that social workers do not abandon clients and that they place clients' needs above their own as long as it is safe to do so.
- The field instructor, agency, and field faculty liaison approve of the student's request to be released early from the expected end of internship.

Students selecting that hours be waived should do so with full knowledge of the following:

- **There is no guarantee that state licensing boards will accept these reduced hours as sufficient to register for licensure after graduation. Some state boards have issued statements that their hours expectations have not changed, although there continues to be discussion on this topic.**

Waiving hours may not be possible for:

- Students with certain expectations/requirements because of specialized programs (e.g. Pupil Personnel Services Credential).
- Students currently on Student Performance Improvement Plans (SPIPs) who have not met all expectations.



All fall field students are eligible to earn field credit for the Faculty-Led Experiential Lab series. More information on the specifics will be forthcoming as we start the fall 2020 semester.

If you need to supplement your field experience with alternate remote learning activities please review the [Google folder](#) where you can find over 60 trainings, a list of competency-based learning activities, telemental health information, and other resources. These additional learning opportunities can be incorporated into an approved remote learning plan created in collaboration with your field instructor and field faculty liaison.

Field Seminar – 698B - Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice

Please note that the integrative field seminars (698B) is a one-credit class with associated assignments. Students should continue to attend field seminar sessions and complete assignments in order to receive Credit. This seminar is not considered part of the field practicum experience and will not be counted as field practicum hours.



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