



SOCW 460 Social Work Field Practicum I

Fall 2024



Instructor Information

Instructor: Ericka Freeman, LCSW-S
Associate Professor in Practice

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In-Person Office Hours:

Tuesdays 12:30 – 4 p.m.

Thursdays 9:30 – 2 p.m.

Other hours available by appointment only.

Virtual Office Hours via Zoom: By appointment only.

Course Information

Credit Hours: 6 Credit Hours

Course Format: Face-to-Face in Field Agency Placement

Time and place of Class Meetings: N/A – Student will present at Field Agency for all classes.

Prerequisites:

SOCW 2361, SOCW 2362, SOCW 2371, SOCW 3303, SOCW 3304, SOCW 3308, SOCW 3108, SOCW 3409 SOCW 4132, SOCW 4331, SOCW 4310; SOCW 4333, SOCW 4334, SOCW 4335
SOCW 4140 (Pre-Field)

Course Overview: The purpose of the Practicum is to provide students with a structured educational experience in an approved social service agency with an approved field instructor based upon a written learning contract. The course content will reflect the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) requirements for accreditation.

Student Learning Outcomes for SOCW 4601:

Below are the Nine (9) CSWE Core Competencies established by the Council on Social Work Education (EPAS 2022). Each of the competencies is included as part of the field practicum learning contract. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate all of the following:

The Council on Social Work Education requires that accredited social work programs follow the CSWE Educational Policy and Standards (EPAS) comprised of nine core competencies as follows:

1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
2. Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
3. Engage in Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice
4. Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
5. Engage in Policy Practice
6. Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
7. Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
8. Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
9. Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Required Textbook and Other Course Material:

Freeman, E. and Kenney, R. (2021). The UT Tyler field practicum manual.

(Provided by instructor. NOT required to purchase.)

Field Placement Agency Handbook (if applicable).

Any other material supplied and required by Field Placement Agency.

Descriptions of Assignments:

Assignments are dependent on field agency requirements, with the agency field instructor being responsible for determining and explaining assignment specifics and due dates.

Each student is in Field Practicum beginning with first day of the fall semester and commencing with the last Friday before finals week. Students may begin their practicum two weeks prior to the start of the semester and may continue two weeks past finals week if the agency, field director, and student agree it is important for client continuity.

Students must complete a minimum of 420 hours in a field agency during their Field Practicum*. Students have the option of completing the hours either in one semester, known as a BLOCK placement or over two semesters, known as a SPLIT placement.

Each student must also successfully complete the goals/behaviors specified in their Learning Contract, as well as successfully complete all the specific behaviors listed in the Mid-Term Evaluation, including any corrective action provided during the evaluation.

**Disclaimer: The completion of the minimum time commitment of 420 hours for Field Block Placement does not ensure a passing grade. Achievement of the behaviors for each of the nine core competencies must be demonstrated.*

Grading Information

Assignment	Percentage
Proof of Liability Insurance	10%
Learning Contract Completion	30%
Mid-Term Evaluation	20%
Assignments at Field Practicum Agency: Time Sheets, Supervision Logs	40%
Total	100%

Student Liability Insurance Proof DUE SEPTEMBER 8, 2024:

Students should submit, even if they have already done so in SOCW 4140, proof of their student intern liability insurance. This is much like malpractice insurance for medical professionals. A link for an inexpensive option is provided in the assignment section of the class Canvas. Students are to both submit a copy to this course AND provide a copy to their agency.

Learning Contract DUE SEPTEMBER 22, 2024:

The student must work with his/her/their assigned field instructor to complete the learning contract. Please reference the mock learning contract made during Pre-Field SOCW 4140 and enlist the assistance of the Field Director if questions arise. Students are responsible for completion of the contract (including required signatures) and submission of the contract to Canvas by the due date.

Each competency in the learning contract must have at least two executable goals assigned. At the end of the semester, a student must achieve a passing score (scored 0-10, with 10 meaning full completion of a goal and 0 meaning no attempt at completion of goal) on EACH Learning Contract goal.

Mid-Term Evaluation DUE OCTOBER 6, 2024:

The mid-term evaluation is an evaluative tool used by a student's agency to mark progress on the learning contract and pre-professional behavior. The mid-term evaluation is completed by the agency field instructor and task supervisor (if applicable) and reviewed with the student and the field liaison. Optimally, this happens in person or via Zoom or Teams. Once reviewed, the student is responsible for uploading the document to Canvas by the due date.

The field liaison will also reach out to the agency to schedule a time to meet, but students are encouraged to initiate the conversation with the field instructor. The name of the game is to learn!

A student must receive a minimum score of "3-Developing" on the mid-term evaluation. If a score of "3" is not earned, a performance improvement plan will be developed to help the student during the second half of the placement.

Assignments at Field Practicum Agency: Time Sheets, Supervision Logs DUE DECEMBER 8, 2024:

Students are responsible for submitting all documented time spent at agency as well as all required supervision logs (which are indicators of assignments at agency). Information on time sheet submission(s) and supervision log requirements are found in the "Assignments" section of this course Canvas. In addition, students are encouraged to regularly attend the companion course, SOCW 4241, for any specific questions or concerns regarding time and supervision.

Written, Oral and Behavioral Assignments To Be Determined (TBD) by Field Practicum Agency:

All written assignments must be grammatically correct using APA style. Assignments with many grammatical errors, misspellings, and/or evidence of plagiarism will not receive a satisfactory grade.

All assignments will be due on the date as assigned by the field instructor.

Final Grade Assignment:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89*

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = Below 60

**If a student earns below a B in Field Practicum Block, the student may be required to retake both sections 4601 and 4602. It is at the discretion of the Field Director and BSW Program Director, in accordance with the BSW handbook and CSWE accreditation standards.*

Make-Up Assignments:

Late assignments are strongly discouraged. It is up to the discretion of the field instructor and/or task supervisor if late assignments are accepted.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is completed on time and submitted correctly.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:

N/A. Class is considered the time spent in the Field Practicum Agency. If the field instructor, field director and student agree, agency assignments may be completed outside of scheduled field hours.

Attendance:

Students are expected to present at their assigned Field Practicum Agency prepared and engaged on each of their scheduled days. Scheduling is at the discretion of the assigned agency and agreed upon by the student prior to starting their practicum. Any absences should be scheduled by the student and approved in advance (if possible) by the field instructor/agency. Unplanned absences must follow agency protocol for notification and make up hours.

The Census Date for the semester is **September 9, 2024**. This is the last day students may withdraw from the course without penalty.

Course Schedule

As the instructor of record for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. However, the completion of assignments, learning contract goals and mid-term evaluation will be determined by the agency field instructor. Any changes will be communicated in a timely manner through UT Tyler email.

The first day of the semester is Monday, August 26, 2024, and the last day is December 6, 2024. Students may remain in the field placement after December 6, for up to two weeks if agreed upon by field instructor/agency, field liaison and student.

University Policies and Information

Withdrawing from Class

Students may withdraw (drop) from this course using the Withdrawal Portal. Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email enroll@uttyler.edu to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions on using the Withdrawal portal.

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career*. The six courses dropped includes those from other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and Enrollment Services for additional guidance.

*CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule. CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the Office of International Programs before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. CAUTION #3: All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. CAUTION #4: All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the Military and Veterans Success Center. * Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.*

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy

For this course, SOCW 4601:

AI is not permitted in this course at all.

Professor Freeman expects all work students submit for this course to be their own. She has carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, Professor Freeman expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations

from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and academic honesty values.

Final Exam Policy

Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the Dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members must maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

Incomplete Grade Policy

If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in place of a grade only when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average. The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to meet all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has yet to be assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or NC. If the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis, this may adversely affect the student's academic standing.

Grade Appeal Policy

Disputes regarding grades must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade by filing a Grade Appeal Form with the instructor who assigned the grade. A grade appeal should be used when the student thinks the final course grade awarded does not reflect the grades earned on assessments or follow the grading scale as documented in the syllabus. The student should provide the rationale for the grade appeal and attach supporting document about the grades earned. The form should be sent via email to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The faculty member reviews the 08/2024 rationale and supporting documentation and completes the instruction section of the form. The instructor should return the form to the student, even if a grade change is made at this level. If the student is not satisfied with the decision, the student may appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the department from which the grade was issued. In situations where there is an allegation of capricious grading, discrimination, or unlawful actions, appeals may go beyond the Chairperson to the Dean or the Dean's designee of the college from which the grade was issued, with that decision being final. The Grade Appeal form is found in the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

NOTE: The Grade Appeal Form is different from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical, and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or a history of

modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with the Assistant Director Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <https://www.uttyler.edu/disability-services>, the SAR office located in the Robert Muntz Library, LIB 460, email saroffice@uttyler.edu, or call 903.566.7079."

Military Affiliated Students

UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. The Military and Veterans Success Center (MVSC) has campus resources for military-affiliated students. The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

Students on an F-1 Visa To remain in compliance with Federal Regulations requirements you must do the following:

- Traditional face-to-face classes: Attend classes on the regular meeting days/times.
- Hybrid Classes: Attend all face-to-face classes convened by the instructor according to the schedule set for your specific course.
- Online course: Only one online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. Students are expected to be fully engaged and meet all requirements for the online course.

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct

The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the Student Conduct and Discipline policy in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

FERPA

UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in University Policy 5.2.3. The course instructor will follow all requirements to protect your confidential information.

Absence for Official University Events or Activities

This course follows the practices related to Excused Absences for University Events or Activities as noted in the Catalog.

Absence for Religious Holidays

This course follows the practices related to Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog.

Absence for Pregnant Students

This course follows the requirements of Texas Laws SB 412, SB 459, SB 597/HB 1361 to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Part of the supports afforded pregnant students includes excused absences. Faculty who are informed by a student of needing this support should make a referral to the Parenting Student Liaison. NOTE: Students must work with the Parenting Student Liaison in order to receive these supports. Students should reach out to the Parenting Student Liaison at parents@uttyler.edu and also complete the [Pregnant and Parenting Self-Reporting Form](#)

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

Student Resources

For a complete listing of all student resources available at UT Tyler, please visit this link in our course's Canvas:

<https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/43112/pages/student-resources-3>