

**School of Social Work** 

## BSW Applying for Placement Orientation 2018-2019

School of Social Work





## **Field Office Contacts**

- Vina Sandher Manager of Field Education
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- Naylen Langin Field Education Coordinator (BSW)
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- Sheryl Abraham Field Education Coordinator (MSW)
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- Esther Ng Field Education Program Assistant
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## Placement Orientations and Upcoming Events

- Planning for Placement Orientation (Sep 28, Oct 2 & 4)
- Resume Writing Workshop Monday, Nov 27, 2017 at 9:30-11:30 am (S802) register on the practicum website – RSVP Link was shared via list-serve late Oct 2017.
- Applying for Placement Orientation (this one)
- Applications for Placement DEADLINE (September Start Only):

## Friday, JANUARY 12th, 2018 by midnight

- Interviewing Workshop Wednesday March 14, 2018 at 9:30-11:30 am (S 802) RSVP Link shared via list-serve late February 2018.
- Agency Fair Spring of 2018 Date TBD
- **Beginning Placement Orientation** (Early September 2018 Dates TBD)





## **Practicum Prerequisites**

- You must SUCCESSFULLY complete the following <u>BEFORE</u> you begin placement in <u>September</u>:
  - SOWK Core Courses (listed below) and
  - 57 Credits of electives OUTSIDE of social work
- The core courses are:

SOWK 1011 – Critical Foundations of SOWK

SOWK 2030 – Critical Perspectives on Society (after Fall 2017 is now SOWK 2060 & SOWK 2070)

SOWK 2050 - Identity, Diversity, and Anti-Discriminatory Practice

SOWK 3041 - Communication

SOWK 3060 – Integrated SOWK Practice

- SOWK 3070 Foundations of SOWK Research
- SOWK 3110 Policy Frameworks

The following course is to be completed <u>CONCURRENTLY</u> WITH PLACEMENT:

SOWK 4020 – Issues in the Study of the Welfare State (In Class Only) – <u>NOT</u> <u>offered</u> in Summer 2018 due to very low historical enrollment.





# Other considerations about eligibility for placement

- Maintain active status in the Social Work program. The field office CANNOT work with students who are not in our program or whose GPA has fallen below the minimum requirement for SOWK and as such have been "exited" out of SOWK.
- Students are not guaranteed a placement simply because they have completed the academic portion of their degree
- Students are expected to demonstrate "readiness for placement" (ex. Cordial responses, professionalism, communication in a timely manner, etc.)
- Know that if you don't respond to the Field Education Coordinator about an opportunity by the specified deadline, you won't be considered for the potential placement (check email regularly)





## Timing, Length, and Specifics of Practicum

- We are considering piloting a Spring/Summer 2018 block placement, if you will have completed all pre-requisites by the end of the winter term you may express your interest in this block placement on your application in the "additional information text box" –Please also reach out to the Field Education Coordinator via email by January 12, 2018 to flag your application for priority. – We will only move forward with this plan if we have enough students (10-13 students) express interest. <u>NO LONGER AN</u> OPTION DUE TO LACK OF RESOURCES & LOGISTICS!
- If Direct Entry Placement only begins in <u>September 2018</u> (usually the Wednesday after labour day). If Post Degree – May apply to begin placement in <u>September 2018</u> or <u>January 2019</u> (January 2019 start: Applications due first week of Sept 2018 – emails will be sent late summer 2018 regarding this).





## Timing, Length, and Specifics of Practicum

- The placement consists of <u>700 hours</u> on site at the agency
- All students <u>must</u> attend 4 integrative seminars
   @ 2 hours each session facilitated by faculty advisor (not included in practicum hours)
- 3 <u>FULL</u> days per week if Direct Entry (generally, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays)
- 2-5 FULL days per week if Post Degree
- Will have to put in additional hours/days if planning to graduate in June 2019





## **About the Application/ Finding a Placement**

- Applications are completed online via the field education database. You will be able to access the application after the Applying for Placement Orientation on November 27, 2017.
- We are not asking for agency choices! Rather, you will be asked to share your areas of interest. You will choose <u>4</u> skills to develop and <u>4</u> client populations (NOT A RANKED LIST). Use "Rationale" text box to express your passions.
- If you have a personal contact that would like to offer you a placement contact the Field Education Coordinator to discuss ASAP
- You will be sent a "placement match" based on what you have written in your application (cannot change application choices once submitted).
- You will have 3 business days to respond (If you decline two matches, a third match will be assigned to you).
- If resume details and/or contact information changes notify me ASAP.





## "Work" Placement proposal

- If you would like to do placement at your current or past place of employment it may be possible.
- Certain Criteria has to be met contact the Field Education Coordinator to discuss ASAP
- Separate proposal to be e-mailed to Field Education Coordinator by January 19, 2018 (online placement application on Database due January 12, 2018)
- All proposals must be approved by Field Education Office to ensure there it is new learning.





## **UWI International Placement**

- University of West Indies (Barbados or St. Vincent-Grenadines)
- Info Session occurred on October 18, 2017 (if interested and did not attend contact Field Education Coordinator)
- If interested in another country you must do the leg work on your own field office will support you.
- Certain Criteria has to be met contact the Field Education Coordinator to discuss ASAP
- Separate proposal to be e-mailed to Field Education Coordinator by January 19, 2018 (online placement application on Database due January 12, 2018)
- All proposals must be approved by Field Education Office after submission.





# The Placement Process- other considerations

- CAS placements in high demand (must have G license, access to vehicle, and previous experience with children, their placement process starts in June)
- Hospitals, most health centers, and school boards NOT for BSW students
- Traditional vs. Non-Traditional Placements
- Meet with coordinator to discuss, ask questions if unclear
- We begin sending your resumes out in February
- The process of contacting agencies and sending out resumes takes the entire summer (from March to the beginning of September)
- This can be very frustrating for students constant communication with the coordinator is necessary





## **BSW Practicum Road Map (overview)**

Applying for Placement Orientation (NOV)

Application Due: Jan 12, 2018

BSW Coordinator reviews placement applications/ pre-req checks/resumes and cover letters mid-Jan to February 2018

#### Matches sent to Student

-Students have 3 business days to respond to match. -If interested, Coordinator sends resume to agency. Agencies typically contact the students directly if interested for an interview via phone or email. -Placement is still not guaranteed --> Tell the Field Office the outcome of the interview.

Field Office follows up with the Field Instructor/Agency after placement offer Confirmation of Placement Package August 2018

Mandatory Beginning Placement Orientation –Sept 2018

Placement Starts in September (field office will send date in confirmation email – but typically the start is the Wednesday after labour day)





## **Confirmation of Placement**

- Confirmation package
- Enrolment SOWK 4000 6.0 & SOWK 4001 6.0, each for the Y (Year) term (total of 12 credits)- you will be granted permission once placement is confirmed (typically in August). You are responsible for contacting the Field Office if you were not granted permission or missed your enrolment window for these courses.
- Failure to enroll in the practicum courses (SOWK 4000 & 4001) may result in you having to re-do your placement again and you will not be protected by WSIB
- Beginning Placement Orientation date TBA (first week after labour day in September 2018)
- Faculty Advisor is assigned to each student
- Integrative Seminar Dates (4 sessions @ 2 hours each)





### Students Responsibilities in the Placement Process

- Informing the Field Education Office of any absences that might affect your availability during the placement process
- Preparing for a successful interview
- Keeping the Field Education Coordinator informed about the outcome of the interview
- If required, obtaining a vulnerable sector screen police check and any other agency requirements prior to the start of placement.
- If you are offered a placement within your identified interests, you must accept the placement offer and your placement search is complete.
- Showing professionalism
- <u>Check email (including junk mail) regularly and respond in a timely</u> manner, and ensure that you are in the student list-serve.





## **Cover Letter/Resume**

- Introduce yourself
- Work and Volunteer History
- Education
- Resume Resources posted on website: <u>http://www.yorku.ca/laps/sowk/practicum/</u>
- <u>Resume Writing Workshop</u>
  - Monday, November 27, 2017 at 9:30-11:30 AM (S802)
  - Please Register on our website (link is up)





## Interviews

- Professional
- Ask questions
- Be prepared to discuss what you can offer
- Be clear about your goals
- Know the agency and programs complete thorough RESEARCH on the agency!
- Inquire about requirements for placement (e.g. vulnerable sector police check, mask fitting, driving, TB test, hours of operation for your placement, etc.)

## • **INTERVIEW WORKSHOP**:

Wednesday March 14, 2018 at 9:30-11:30 am (S 802) –
 RSVP Link shared via list-serve late February 2018.





## Accommodations

- If you require any sort of accommodations for placement, this must be submitted in writing to the Field Office
- Communicating accommodation needs
   <u>before</u> the start of placement is helpful in
   ensuring students needs are known and can
   be met
- Academic Accommodations may present differently in a placement setting
- Refer to Counseling and Disability Services: http://www.yorku.ca/cds/
- Speak to the Field Office





## **York University Policies**

- Practicum Manual
- http://www.yorku.ca/laps/sowk/practicum/
- Placement Breakdown
- Placement Failure
- Professional Behaviour Policy
- Refer to website:

http://www.yorku.ca/laps/sowk/practicum/

## YOU MUST READ THE PRACTICUM MANUAL!!!





### **Vulnerable Sector Screen**

- Police Reference Check
- If you live in Toronto: You need to start your police check approximately <u>four</u> <u>months</u> in advance. Attend the social work office the week of April 2-April 6, 2018 to complete the form and then you will submit the form and payment to the police station via mail (emails will go out in February with instructions)
- If you live outside of Toronto contact your local police station to determine the approximate time it will take to complete your police check, and if you need a letter from the School
- If you require a letter from the School, please also see us during the week mentioned above
- A delay in getting your police check completed could mean a delay in starting your placement !!! Even if you have not been matched you may want to consider obtaining one as most social service agencies request this.
- If you intend to work in an agency that serves vulnerable members they will REQUIRE you to obtain a CLEARED vulnerable sector police check
- You cannot submit an outdated police check (no older than 3 -4 months from start of placement unless agency states otherwise)
   YORK





## Important Information Regarding OSAP

- For students who are planning to do their practicum, please note that you will need to ensure you are enrolled in **9 credits per** term during the Fall and Winter term to be eligible for OSAP.
- Students who take less than 9 credits per term, however, can apply for another Federal Government loan program for parttime students which is also administered by the OSAP Office. For more information about this program, please go to:

http://sfs.yorku.ca/aid/part\_time/index.htm

- To be considered full-time for OSAP, you need a total of 18 credits (12 of which are from placement). Example:
  - FALL Take Field (6 credits) + 4020 (3 credits) OR an elective (3 credits)
  - WINTER take Field (6 credits) + 4020 (3 credits) OR an elective (3 credits)





## Accessing the Database

## Things to be aware of:

- 1. USE **FIREFOX** (our system does not work well with other browsers)
- 2. Database will log you out after approximately 20 minutes of inactivity.
- Please note that the "SUBMIT" button will disappear from the on-line database application once the deadline date has passed: FRIDAY, JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 11:59pm. You must click SUBMIT for application to be complete.





## Registering on the Database via Website – Other Information

Please ensure that you have <u>all</u> areas of the application completed as you intended, before submitting your application. It is quite time consuming and complicated to reverse the application in the database for editing so this is why we encourage you to really review the application before hitting **SUBMT because you will not be able to make changes to you online application once submitted!** 

Any necessary changes to your application should be emailed to Naylen Langin: <u>nayleng@yorku.ca</u> before <u>February 9, 2018</u>. <u>After this date the matching</u> <u>process will begin so your areas of interest cannot be changed</u> (only changes accepted are updated cover letter/resume and/or contact information).

Please save your cover letter and resume (in one document) as: LAST NAME First Name 2017.doc (ensure your cover letter is the first page followed by your resume, in doc or pdf format only).





## **Registering on the Database via Website**

#### Open Internet Browser (Firefox works best) On Address Line Type: http://practicum.sowk.laps.yorku.ca/



Practicum » Home Page

#### Welcome to Practicum

The School of Social Work seeks to prepare students to be critical practitioners and agents of change. As part of this preparation and as a requirement for graduation, each student completes a **field placement**. The practicum is intended to support the integration of theory and practice, preparing students to function as professional social workers. As such, the field placement becomes the culminating experience of each student's education at the School.



Search this site Q
School of Social Work
Database Sign-in

yFile

#### Click on Database Sign-in

Upcoming Events





## **Registering on the Database via Website**

#### **Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies**

#### Database Online - School of Social Work

Home Students Field Office Staff Field Instructors Faculty Advisors Contact

#### Welcome to School of Social Work Database Online!

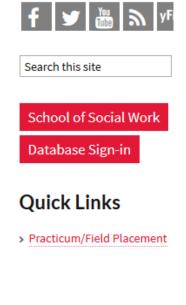
#### **Online Database for School of Social Work Supports:**

#### Students

The database is used by Social Work students to:

- submit their online placement application
- complete the learning contract, mid point review, and final evaluation,
- log their placement hours and,
- complete the student placement questionnaire (at the end of their placement).









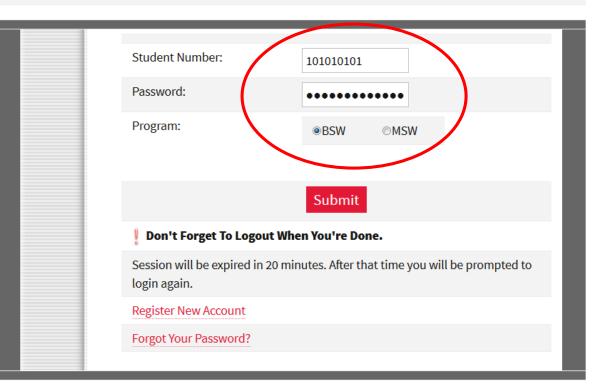
### **Registering on the Database via Website**

#### This will bring you to the SOWK Online Application –Students Page.



#### Welcome to School of Social Work Database Online!

#### **Student Web Services Sign In**



• Click on "Register new account" for 1<sup>st</sup> time users (must have York U email account to register)

OR enter your student ID & password as well

- Select BSW Student (if you have already registered)
- In order to do this you will need to enter your student number and create a password for future use.





### **Registering on the Database via Website**

Faculties • Libraries • Campus Maps • York & Organization • Directory • Site Index									
My Profile	My Courses	Placemen	t Request	earning Contract	Mid-Point	Final Evaluatio	n   Log of Hours	Questionnaire	Agency Dir
MY ONLINE S	SERVICES	eneral							LOGOUT logged in as FTest LTest
	ent Number Name Name er	12345678 LTest FTest	ogram Groups 9	Emergency Contact	Employment	Security		School of Social Current Student Registrar's Offic Agency Search Privacy and Lega	I Work ts ce
Note:				m Groups data are f to http://www.registra		ent Information	System (SIS).		

Check your General Information. Then continue by Clicking on **Placement Request** to begin the application process. Make sure you **select 'F18'** for the term you are applying to <u>OR</u> '**W19'** if you are a post degree student applying for January 2019 placement.

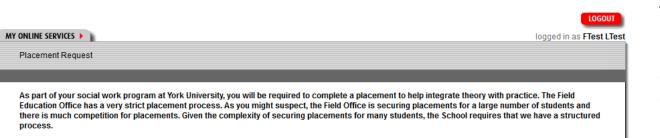




### **Registering on the Database via Website**

My Profile | My Courses | Placement Request | Learning Contract | Mid-Point | Final Evaluation | Log of Hours | Questionnaire |

Agency Directory



By submitting this application you agree to the following:

- · Completing course pre-requisites
- · Not reaching out to agencies on your own without prior discussion with the Field Education Coordinator
- Checking your phone and e-mail messages regularly (for example, 2-3 times a week) to ensure you don't miss out on an opportunity
- If you don't respond to the Field Education Coordinator about an opportunity by the specified deadline, you won't be considered for the potential
  placement
- Informing the Field Education Office of any absences that might affect your availability during the placement process
- Preparing for a successful interview
- Keeping the Field Education Coordinator informed about the date of your interview and the outcome
- If required, obtaining a vulnerable sector police check screen and any other agency requirements prior to the start of placement.
- If you are offered a placement within your identified interests, you must accept the placement offer and your placement search is complete. Only
  under extreme circumstances, the Field Education Office may consider exploring other options.

I am applying to participate in: 🗹 BSW Placement
I am: O Direct Entry O Post Degree
I am applying to participate in:
How many days per week:

General Information (This section's data is obtained directly from the Registar's Office. If any of the information is incorrect, please update it directly through the Registrar's Office - Current Students website)

Student Number	123456789	Date of Birth			
Last Name	LTest	First Name	FTest		
Address				APT#	
City		Province		Postal Code	
Home Phone		Other Contact No			

#### Preferred Contact Information

Email from eqiuli@my.yorku.ca SIS		Preferred Email	estherng@yorku.ca				
Preferred Name		What pronoun do you use (he, she, they, other)?		j			
Emergency Contact							
First Name	ECFname2	Last Name	ECLname3				

#### **Complete Application.**

Please ensure that you have inputted your emergency contact information. If any of your contact information is wrong it must be updated on the Registrar's website:

http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/

Ensure to fill entire application (ex. Students often forget: preferred email, preferred name, pronoun, driver's license and car check box, languages, etc.)





### **Registering on the Database via Website**

PR/	ACTICUM REQUIREMENTS						
Whi	Which geographical regions can you complete your placement in? Please be clear regarding boundaries.						
-	If you have a valid Driver's Licence, please indicate the type of Licence Will you have access to a car for placement purpose						
-	G2 🔘 G 🔘 No Licence		C Yes	🔘 Yes 🔘 No			
	ou speak languages other than Er	nglish? 🔘 Yes 🔍 No					
	Languages:						
Son	ne agencies require students to se	If-identify in order to work with a specific	c population. If you	wish to self-identify, p	lease do so below.		
					.41		
сті	IDENT INTEREST:						
1		ocial work you would be interested in P	lease note this is l	NOT a ranked list			
Please select 4 areas of critical social work you would be interested in. Please note, this is NOT a ranked list:     Formal Long-Term Counselling Formal Short-Term Counselling Group Facilitation Case Management				Management			
	Crisis Intervention	Outreach	Advoca	cy 📃 Progra	m Development		
	Program Evaluation	Community Engagement/Develo	pment 🔲 Policy	Resea	rch		
	Other						
2.	Please select 4 areas of interest.	Please note, this is NOT a ranked list:					
	Seniors	E Families	Women	Men 📃			
	Children	Youth	Child welfare	Differing Develop	pmental Abilities		
	Mental Health	Differing Physical Abilities	Addictions	Newcomers to C	Canada		
	Food Security Issues	Homelessness	LGBTTQQ2SIA	Aboriginal			
	Justice/Legal/Political Issues	Health Care/Community Health	HIV/AIDs	Employment/Inc	ome Support		
	Palliative Care/Bereavement	Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault	Other				

Be specific on which cities by listing them (ex. If you say "York Region" we will assume all cities there apply). **NOTE:** Toronto includes: Etobicoke, Scarborough, North York, East York, York, Downtown – so be specific which area you mean because if you write Toronto we will assume ALL of Toronto. DO NOT provide street names, kms, time frames or subway line parameters).

**NOTE:** If interested in CAS type of placement you must check "Child Welfare" box, if you check "Children" you will likely not be matched with a CAS type of placement.





### **Registering on the Database via Website**

3.	Please provide your rationale for working	•	Let us know about your passions (cuts wording off
4.	Please let us know if there is an area of p	ractice that you are not interested in working with OR cannot work in for whatever reason:	after 2 lines).
5.	Office, please provide the details below. S	ii] that the School doesn't have a connection with and you have previously discussed this with the Field E tudents must recognize that placements will not be approved until the Field Education Office has review t accreditation requirements. If you don't have a specific contact, please leave this section blank:	
Ag	ency Name:		Personal Contact
Co	ntact Person's Name:		
Co	ntact Person's E-mail Address:		<ul> <li>information if you have been offered a</li> </ul>
Co	ntact Person's Telephone and Extension:		placement through
AT	TACHMENT		your connections, or
		e are combined in ONE document (.DOC, .DOCX , or .PDF file formats are only accepted). FNAME Year.doo". Example: John SMITH 2016.doc	are doing a work placement (provide
An	updated general cover letter and resume:	Browse No file selected.	details in text box
		r further support or accommodations you may need in placement, please do so here. This information dates you will not be in Ontario during your placement process:	will be below)
		1	.#
	I have read and agree to the above-mention	ied terms for the placement process.	
	Save	Submit	
We	look forward to working with you and find	ing the best match from your identified interests and viable placement opportunities.	

Also write here if interested in an International Placement OR doing work placement (including if found placement through a personal contact)





## **Questions/Comments?**

## We're here to help!

Refer to our website:

http://practicum.sowk.laps.yorku.ca/

- Updates on Practicum Events
- Orientations (PowerPoint Presentations)
- Resume and Interview Resources
- Practicum Manual

