



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
FIELD EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Introduction to Field Education Webinar

U-M School of Social Work

Office of Field Education

Incoming Fall 2024 On-Campus and Online MSW Programs

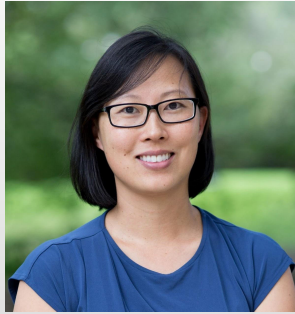
April 22, 2024 at 5:00 PM

A Few Reminders

- Please note that this presentation is primarily geared toward students who will begin field in Fall 2024.
- For those starting field Winter 25, you are welcome to stay and there will be another virtual Intro to Field Webinar for Winter 25 field start students on 9/3/24 from 12-130p (EST)
- Students starting the Online Part-Time MSW program will have a special field webinar during your first term in the program, since your field application timeline is different.
- Please hold your questions as they may be answered throughout this presentation
- Questions can be sent via the Q&A zoom chat function
- This recording and the slides will be posted online following this presentation
- If you have accessibility needs for this meeting today, please feel free to tell us via direct message in the chat or in any way that's best for you



The Office of Field Education Team



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Director of Field Education &
Clinical Assistant Professor
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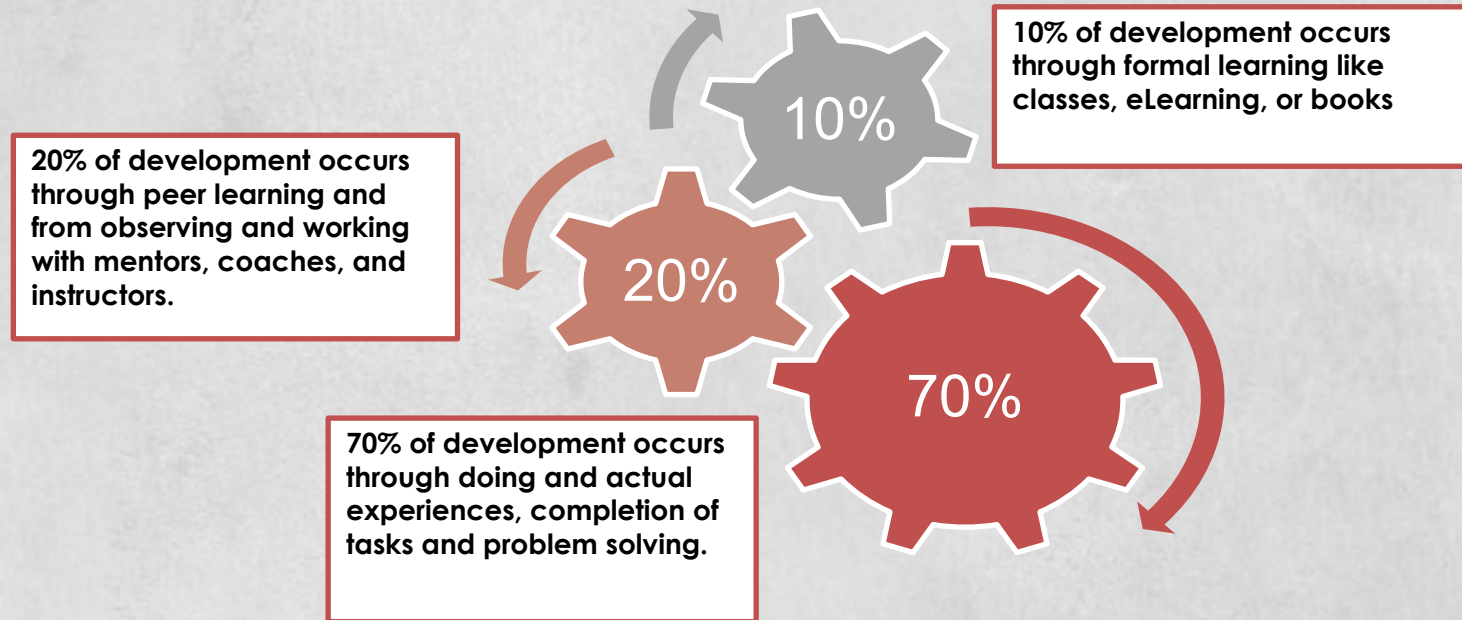
Stacy Peterson
Field Faculty
her/she



Zaynab Boussi
Field Faculty
she/ her



Learning Acquisition Methods



What is Field Education?

Field education (field placement, practicum, experiential education) is the applied learning, real-world training portion of the MSW curriculum.

- Field consists of SW 515 (Foundation Field Course) & SW 691 (Advanced Field Course)
- Every student will spend 16-24 hours per week in field during the semesters of your field courses
- 14 field course credits for 16 mo, 20 mo and MasterTrack students = 912 hours over 3 terms in field (4 terms for students in the part-time program)
- 12 field course credits for advanced standing students = 684 hours over 3 terms in field

Be prepared for this time commitment



Why is Field Important?

- It requires you to commit and practice the core values of the social work profession
- It prepares you to become the provider of service to the clients and community you will be serving
- It allows you to engage in critical thinking and self-reflection
- It encourages you to understand the use of self in relation to your impact on others
- It allows you to begin to create your own professional identity and career goals

Everything you do in field is a learning opportunity.



What Will I Do In Field?

Develop **CSWE Social Work Competencies** and Skills

Practice and apply classroom theories and concepts in a real-world setting

Practice navigating ethical concerns according to the NASW Code of Ethics

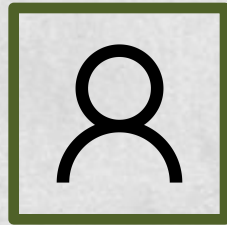
Practice skills and behaviors that lead to core competency development



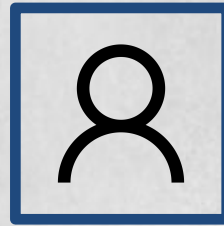
Your Field Education Team



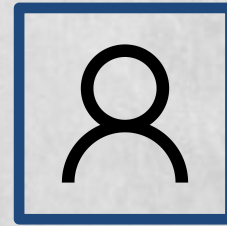
MSW Student



Field Faculty
*U-M SSW faculty
member in the
Office of Field
Education*



Field Instructor(s)
*MSW
(typically
employed at the
field site)*

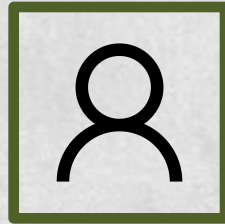


Task Supervisor
*Employee at field
site*

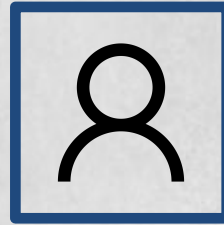
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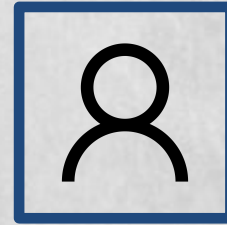
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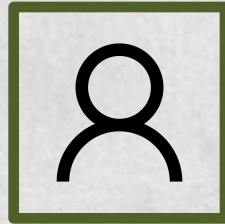


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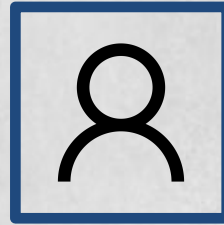
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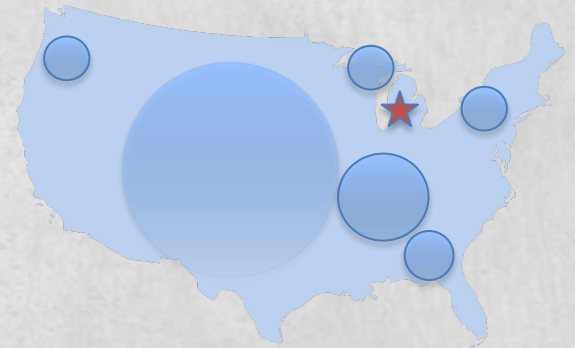
Task Supervisor
*Employee at field
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Where will my Field Placement be?



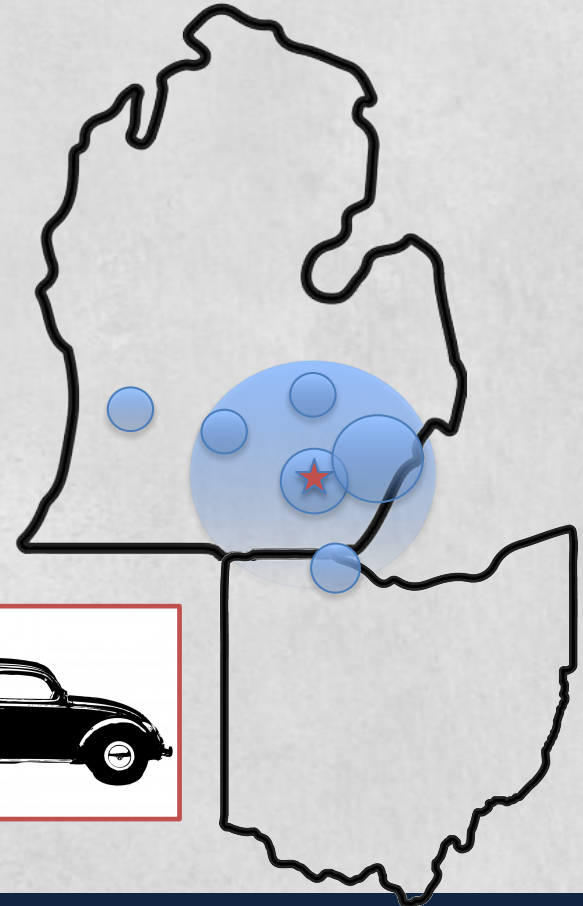
Student,
MSW
candidate

- “Local” options in SE Michigan and Northern Ohio, most in Ann Arbor and Detroit
- **Most students travel an average of 30 to 60 minutes** to get to field
- Spring/Summer term national and international field placement options



Transportation

- You are responsible for your transportation to your field site
- If you don't drive or have a car, indicate this on your application, as this does limit options
- Transportation options can include carpooling and public transportation



Employment Based Placements (EBP)

- Some may wish to explore whether your current employment can also serve as your field placement
- There are multiple requirements and a separate application required
- Major requirements include: (full details are available in the EBP application)
 - your proposed employment based placement can meet your planned pathway and CSWE competencies
 - your agency is willing to pursue the approval process
 - your agency is willing to support the number of field hours required
 - your agency has a MSW on staff who meets current field instructor requirements

The Employment based placements process begins with the same process of applying via the field application



Entering Your Field Placement

Entering field means you are entering a new community.

Field sites and field instructors understand you're a student there to learn.

However, as a professional graduate social work student you are expected to have skills and attributes in the following areas per our [UM-SSW Technical Standards](#)

- Communication
- Intellectual and Cognitive Skills
- Emotional and Behavioral Readiness



Best Approaches to Field: 5 Pieces of Advice

- Own your learning and manage your expectations
- Learn to function with discomfort, anxiety, and ambiguity
- Be willing to make mistakes
- Be patient with all you have to learn
- Want, seek and use feedback



Applying to Field and the Placement Process



When do I Apply for my Field Placement?

**Students starting
field in Fall 2024**

**Applications Open
May 20, 2024**

**Applications Due
May 31, 2024
@5p EST**

**Students starting
field in Winter 2025**

**Intro to Field Webinar for Winter
2025 start students
September 3, 2024 @12-130p EST**

**Applications Open
September 16, 2024**

**Applications Due
September 27, 2024
@5p EST**



Reasons Why You Might Apply for Field at a Different Time



Placement Needs



Interested in National Placement?

Email:

ssw-fieldoffice@umich.edu

and

ssw.msw.info@umich.edu



Dual Degree Candidate



In a Dual degree program?

Email:

ssw.msw.info@umich.edu



Interested in Global Independent Study?

Email:

ssw.oga@umich.edu



Spring/Summer Field Placing Office Hours for Fall 2024 Field Applications

Starts Monday May 20, 2024

Monday, 5/20/24 (9-10a)

Tuesday, 5/21/24 (1-2p)

Wednesday, 5/22/24 (9-10a)

Thursday, 5/23/24 (1-2p)

Friday, 5/24/24 (9-10a)

Monday, 5/27/24 Holiday

Tuesday, 5/28/24 (9-10a)

Wednesday, 5/29/24 (1-2p)

Thursday, 5/30/24 (9-10a)

Friday, 5/31/24 (1-2p)

Zoom links for Office Hours are posted on the Incoming Field Students Website:

<https://ssw.umich.edu/r/FieldFacultyOfficeHours>

*All times above are EST

Welcome! You're invited to drop in!



Limitations in the Placing Process

Agency

- Field instructor/Agency availability
- Training program cycle
- Changes in funding
- Previous experience with students

Student

- Program schedule
- Student availability
- Student's interest/pathway
- Related experience
- Professional presentation

Please do not reach out to agencies directly. Our office maintains relationships with our contracted agencies and it is important for us to maintain our established communication channels and expectations. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



How to Apply for Your Field Placement

An email will be sent to your Umich email when the application opens up

PLEASE REVIEW OUR WEB RESOURCES:

[Incoming Field Students Page](#)

1. Preparing your application materials

[Resume Tips](#)

[SSW Writing Assistance](#) for Field Goal Statements

2. [Composing and submitting your field application](#)

3. [Interviewing](#)

4. [Preparing to start](#)



Composing and Submitting Your Field Application

The Field Application will ask you to identify your priorities and select placement options.

Every effort will be made to match you with a selected or similar agency that aligns with your pathway and goals. Please note this is a dynamic and constantly shifting process.

Goal statement: 1-2 page written statement that we share with potential field placements to give them an idea of your knowledge, skills and interests

- Follow the [goal statement guidelines](#) to compose
- Feel free to reach out to the SSW Writing Skills/Study Skills coordinator: [SSW Writing Assistance](#)

Resume: Same as any other resume, but with any social work experience or skills emphasized

- **Please ensure you use your UMich email address on your resume!** This is how agencies/field instructors will contact you.
- The Office of Career Services (CSO) website has [resume guidelines and examples](#)



Composing and Submitting Your Field Application Resources

Optional Student Resources as you work on your application:

1. Need resume help? You are invited to submit your resume and/or goal statement to the Office of Career Services at (ssw-cso@umich.edu). They request you submit materials for review two weeks or more prior to the field application deadline. More notice is preferred.
2. Identify as having a disability? You are invited to connect with [Services for students with Disabilities](#) (SSD) at University of Michigan student life 734-763-3000 or email ssdoffice@umich.edu (or Emily Wisler directly at ewisler@umich.edu)



What Happens After you Apply

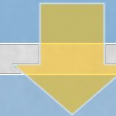
APPLICATION REVIEWED BY FACULTY



RESUME AND GOAL STATEMENT ARE SENT TO AGENCY



INTERVIEW OFFER FROM AGENCY



INTERVIEW AT AGENCY

Placement then Finalized or Field Faculty to Identify Next Opportunity



What if I Don't Get an Interview or Am Not Accepted After I Interview?

- Don't worry and reach out to your field faculty to discuss your situation and circumstances
- Your assigned field faculty can provide any feedback received and offer support to improve your interview skills
- You may need to reflect on where you are in your skill development and what placements might be a better fit at this time
- Field faculty work as a team. We will work together to find the next opportunity for you.
- Students who are unsuccessful after two interview attempts will meet with their placing Field Faculty and the Field Director (or Assistant Director).



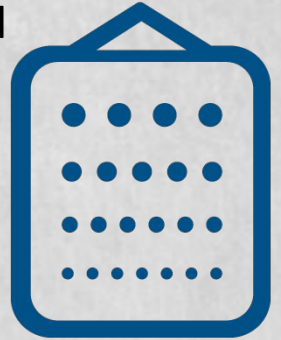
Preparing to Start Field

Congratulations on your placement!

- Review the content on the [Prepare to Start website](#)
- Read: [Are You a Joy?](#)
- Check in with the field instructor before the start date about any additional requirements you'll need to complete

Examples

- Health screenings & drug testing
 - Background checks
 - HR application
- Make sure you are checking and responding to emails from your umich account throughout the summer to ensure timely communication
 - **Attend pre-field orientation during SEED Week**
 - READ the syllabus and review your assigned Field Canvas site



Additional Important Information and Resources

- [International Student Field Placement Information](#)
- Letters of Recommendation - occasionally requested by field site
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) & [Services for Students with Disabilities \(SSD\)](#)
- Undocumented Status
 - U-M SSW Office of Student Services (ssw-oss@umich.edu)



Licensing & Career Planning

- [Association of Social Work Boards](#)
- [National Association of Social Workers](#)
- [SSW Career Services](#) - ssw-cso@umich.edu

SSW Career Center: ssw-cso@umich.edu



Hospital/Medical Placements



Aimee Vantine, MSW, LMSW
Field Faculty
LEO Lecturer III
she/her



Amy Burandt, MSW, LMSW
Field Faculty
LEO Lecturer III
she/her



Rachel Naasko,
BSW ,MSW, DSW, LMSW
Field Faculty
LEO Lecturer IV
she/her

***Specific Hospital/Medical placement virtual session May 2nd at 5pm.
Zoom link on Incoming Student Webpage.**



Types of Hospital Placements:



Medical / Psychiatry

Inpatient / Ambulatory (Outpatient)

Macro Placements-some IP “light”



Hours and Credits:

Many hospitals require additional field hours = 24 hours per week every semester

Often includes a student program as part of those hours

May need to use some elective credits



Hospital Requirements

Many hospital placement require proof of immunizations and in some cases titers

Some hospital placements require a current drug screen

BLS-Basic Life Saving Course is required for some placements

Interview Process:

Each hospital holds interviews in unique formats

Some quite specific process with little flexibility in timing or location

Class Requirement:

SW 714 an Interprofessional Education course is a required class for all students in hospital and health care based placements and is only offered in the Winter semester



Medical Placements Provide:

- Clinical experience in a variety of settings (clinical is not only therapy)
- Experience in working as part of an interdisciplinary team
- Opportunity to work with various patient populations
- Potential for exposure to experiences in high acuity intensive care, crisis emergency care, chronic health care, specialty care, primary care, etc.
- Ability to engage in social work opportunities in micro, mezzo and macro levels

Larger Health Systems: Children's Hospital of Michigan, Henry Ford Health System, Michigan Medicine, Trinity Health System, VA Medical Center

Community Based Health Placements





V.A. Ann Arbor Hospital Based Placements

Locations: Ann Arbor, Flint, Jackson and Toledo

Detroit V.A.- Winter 2025 start only

Application: DUE ASAP

Next Steps:

1. Email SSW Field Office to request early access to field application
ssw-fieldoffice@umich.edu
2. Write goal statement and complete application including selecting V.A. placement
3. Contact Dr. Naasko for questions
rtmaki@umich.edu



School Social Work and School Social Worker Specialization



**Field Educator, Liaison / LEO
Lecturer IV
Stacy L. Peterson, MSW, LMSW**

Professor Peterson is a field educator and liaison in the Office of Field Education. She works primarily with students interested in children and youth, juvenile justice, and school social worker practice.



**Clinical Associate Professor
of Social Work
Beth Sherman, MSW, LMSW**

Professor Sherman specializes in the area of social work practice with children and youth. In addition to teaching, she coordinates the *School Social Worker Specialization*.



**Field Faculty/ LEO Lecturer IV
Zaynab K. Boussi, MSW, LMSW**

Professor Boussi is a field faculty in the Office of Field Education. She works primarily with students interested in children and youth, adjustment and acculturation issues and school social worker practice.



Goals

- Provide information about the school social work specialization and certification.
- Provide information about the school social work specialization field placement process.

More information: [U-M Social Work in School Settings](#)



Overview

- Roles and Qualities
- Requirements for School Social Work Specialization:
 - UMSSW School Social Worker Specialization
 - Michigan Approval Process
 - Other States' Requirements
- School Based Placement Process
- Contacts and Additional Resources



Roles and Abilities

Roles:

- Engagement
- Assessment
- Intervention
- Advocacy
- Evaluation

Abilities:

- Independent
- Flexible
- Efficient in a fast-paced environment
- Organized



Course Requirements

- Interpersonal Practice or Welfare of Children and Families Pathway *
- SW 626 School Social Work Assessments
- SW 628 School Social Work Interventions
- SW515/SW691: 500 Field Hours of direct service with children and youth.

*Exceptions can be made for students in the Community Change pathway and the Global pathway, if the field placement can accommodate 500 hours of direct practice with children and youth, and a meeting is held with Beth Sherman to formulate a specific plan.



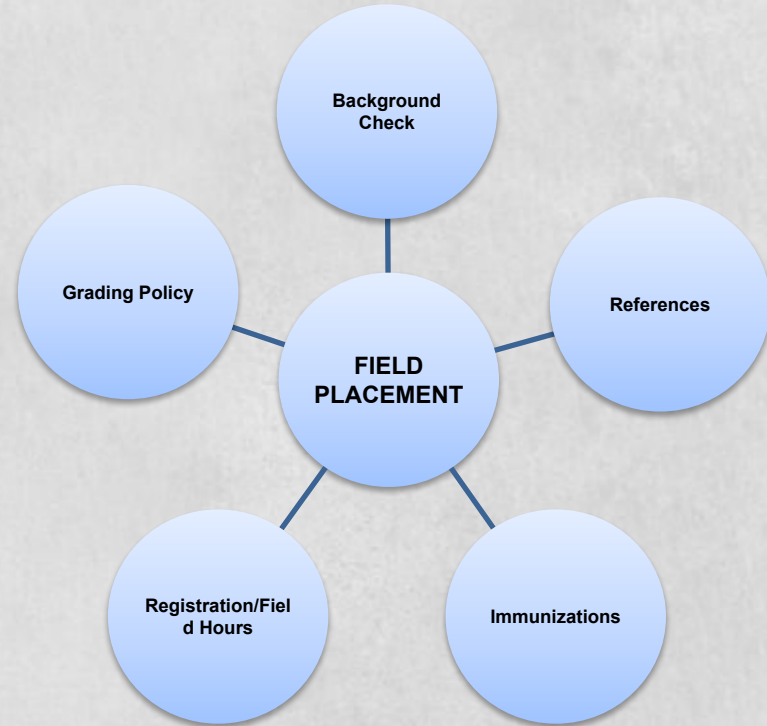
Approval Process

- State of Michigan School Social Worker Approval Process:
 - [Form 310 Recommendation for Temporary Approval Request Form](#)
- Other States' Requirements: Each state has its own requirements for school social workers, please check your state's department of education website for details.



School-Based Placement Process

- Review/Timeline
- Criminal Background Check
- References
- Immunizations
- Registration/Field Hours
- Grading Policy



Contact Information

- Beth Sherman, MSW, LMSW
Associate Clinical Professor
School Social Worker Specialization Coordinator
shermanb@umich.edu
- Stacy L. Peterson, MSW, LMSW
Field Faculty, Lecturer IV
stacyk@umich.edu
- Zaynab K. Boussi, MSW, LMSW
Field Faculty, LEO Lecturer IV
zboussi@umich.edu



Resources

- **School Social Worker Specialization**

<https://sww.umich.edu/programs/msw/financial-aid/school-social-worker-specialization>

- **School Social Worker Form 310**

<https://sww.umich.edu/offices/registrar>

- **School Social Workers Association of America**

<http://www.sswaa.org>

- **Michigan Association of School Social Workers**

<https://masswmi.site-ym.com/>



Thank you!

Questions?

Contact us at

ssw-fieldoffice@umich.edu

or

734-764-5331



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