Student Orientation at the Practicum Agency

University of Montana School of Social Work
Online MSW – Field Education Program

Overview

• Student Developmental Stages
• Learning Styles
• Student Orientation at the Agency
• Student and Supervision Orientation
Student Developmental Stages

- Settling In/Anxiety
- Engagement
- Basic Mastery
- Closure
Learning Styles

Learning Style Assessment

- Kolb’s Learning Inventory - Identify the predominant learning style of your supervisee
- Help students integrate theory and practice through reflective supervision
Learning Style Assessment

• Build off of student’s predominant learning style
  • **Thinkers** – Facilitate a case presentation and identify the evidence-based practice model used
  • **Observers** – Observe an intake, write up the assessment, reflect on social worker’s techniques--how would you have performed similarly/differently
  • **Doers** – Process recordings with interview content, social worker and client observations, major themes, interventions
  • **Feelers** – Watch video recorded sessions--what do you notice? What came up for you

• Or, challenge the student to reflect in a different style

Agency & AFI
Orientation
Orienting Students to Agency

• Introductions
  • Meet and Greet
  • Building Tour

• Policies & Procedures
  • Confidentiality
  • HIPPA etc.
  • Safety
  • Agency Norms (dress code, communication re. sick time/ time off, social media use etc.)

• Agency Overview
  • Mission & Values
  • Population, Services, Eligibility

• Practicum Logistics
  • Weekly Supervision Time & other regular meetings
  • Student Schedule

Orienting Students to Supervision

• Supervision Time & Expectations
  • Past supervision experiences – what has worked or not?
  • How should student prepare for supervision?

• Communication Style
  • Preferred Methods of Communication

• Learning Goals & Activities
  • Collaborative approach to learning
“Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.” – J. Welch

More information about student support and supervision can be found in the next module on supervision.