

September 9, 2018

Supervised Field Work Course, 22,5 ECTS credits

General information and requirements

The Supervised Field Work is a compulsory part of the 5th semester of the study Programme in Social Work (210ECTS credits) at the Department of Social Work at Stockholm University, Sweden.

General information

The Supervised Field Work (SFW) is intended to give students the chance to try out and develop social work routines in varying contexts under the guidance of an experienced social worker. The overall objective is for each student to experience how theories and methods are actually applied in the field. Another vital aspect is reflection on the social work professional role, to understand the room for action and to consider how the student in this future role can and should relate to workplace conditions. Great emphasis is placed on the need to reflect on approaches to and theories of social work at individual, group and societal level, and how through such reflections students learn to use and develop their knowledge of practical social work.

For admission to the course students must have passed all courses in the first three semesters of the programme and courses for at least 15ECTS credits in the fourth semester.

Course content

- Practical social work based on the profession's ethical, legal, organisational and sociopolitical conditions
- Theories and work methods used in social work at different levels
- Development of generic professionalism through reflection on communication, self-awareness, empathy and leeway for own discretion
- Organisation and governance in social work

Intended learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course students shall be able to

- show knowledge of practical social work and be able to identify, interpret and critically reflect on the professional role and its ethical, legal, organisational and sociopolitical conditions
- show knowledge of, apply and critically reflect on theories and work methods used in social work at different levels of the society and in relation to the individuals and organisations involved
- show insight into generic professionalism through reflection on communication, self-awareness, empathy and margin for discretion
- show knowledge of organisation and governance in social work

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- show ability to identify own needs for further knowledge and competence.

To achieve these Supervised Field Work goals the student shall learn to carry out and reflect on practical social work tasks under the guidance of the field work workplace as well as submitting a number of written assignments with teacher support.

Requirements for the host organization/ supervisor

- The host organization is working actively in the field of social work.
- The host organization is able to host and support the student to achieve the intended learning outcomes above during 15 weeks fulltime.
- The host organization needs to provide a supervisor for the student.
The supervisor should be a social work graduate with at least two years of professional experience. In special cases other professional education may be judged to be equivalent. The supervisor's responsibility is to support the student in his/her learning and to give individual tutoring for 1-1.5 hours per week.
- Studies are full-time, i.e. the students are expected to work a 40-hour week. This framework includes active participation at the field work placement, time for carrying out examination tasks (4h/week), possible study visits and the obligatory final seminar at the Department of Social Work.

Monitoring and evaluation

Student & supervisor in the host organization:

- Supervision sessions of 1-1.5 hours/week.
- Draw up a personal Supervised Field Work plan (SFW-plan).
- Mid-semester evaluation in order to follow up the first half of the field experience.
- Final evaluation session
- Supervisor assessment form confirming that you have performed your field work in accordance with your personal SFW-plan.

Student & group coordinator/ examiner at the Department of Social Work, Stockholm

- All students, even those doing their field work abroad, are placed in base groups of about 10-12 students each.
- Each base group is assigned a group coordinator/examiner who will maintain contact with the students in their group and their supervisors. Communication will take place mainly via emails or the learning platform Mondo. The base group coordinator/examiner will grade the student's assignments and SFW performance as a whole, that is, the development and learning during the placement in relation to intended learning outcomes and the personal SFW-plan.

Qualifying examination tasks

- Attendance at the workplace and active participation according to the conditions of the students personal SFW-plan
- Submission and approval of four completed examination tasks
- Active participation in the final seminar at the Department of Social Work
- Oral presentation of the field placement workplace at the end of semester 5