

Field Instructor Roles vs. Task Supervisor Roles

Supervision Options

- Option 1:** **One hour** of weekly supervision from an on-site Field Instructor
No Task Supervisor needed
- Option 2:** **One hour** of supervision **every other week** (more if needed) from an on-site Field
AND one hour of supervision **every other week (or weekly)** from on-site Task
Supervisor
- Option 3:** **One hour** of supervision **every other week** (more if needed) from an OFF-SITE Field
Instructor, **AND one hour of weekly** supervision from an on-site Task Supervisor

Note: 50% of all supervision hours MUST be individual supervision. The remaining 50% may be group supervision with other student interns. Some students do well with some group supervision, while others benefit from primarily individual supervision.

Field Instructor Role: **MUST be social workers (BSW/MSW) plus two+ years of post-degree experience**

Has primary responsibility for student’s learning in the field placement to reinforce the student’s identification with social work profession; to integrate classroom learning with field practice; and to promote the development of professional social work knowledge, values, and skills.

The Field Instructor is responsible for weekly, reflective supervision with the student to aid in their development as a learner and professional social worker. The Field Instructor infuses the social work perspective into supervision.

Task Supervisor Role: **social work degree not necessary**

A Task Supervisor may be assigned to supervise the day-to-day activities of the internship. They are responsible for skill development and may assume specific responsibilities for a student’s learning on particular tasks, cases, projects, or experiences. The Task Supervisor does not replace the Field Instructor, and must work in collaboration with the Field Instructor to ensure that the student’s learning goals are being met and regular feedback is provided.

Field Instructor	Task Supervisor
Assumes the primary role of instructor and supervisor and fosters an environment conducive to learning.	Responsible for the day-to-day on site guidance for project, case, or task.
Ensures student learning experiences that integrate social work theory, practice, and research. Reviews learning objectives, tasks, and activities on student’s education learning agreement.	Collaborates with student and Field Instructor to identify meaningful learning experiences.
Assumes a teaching role and provides opportunities for students to shadow, observe, role-play, and develop new social work skills.	
Provides support and feedback to student as he/she critically analyzes his/her strengths and areas for student growth and progress.	
Provides a minimum of one hour of scheduled supervisory time weekly to confer and reflect on field	Keeps field instructor informed of student’s progress on projects, cases undertaken with task supervisor.

assignments.	
Provides ongoing constructive feedback on the student's performance and completes all written evaluations. (2 final evaluations each semester and one midterm evaluation for BSW students)	Provides input to the student's evaluation in collaboration with the field instructor and student.
Responsible for orienting student to agency procedures, policies, mission, documentation requirements, personnel, safety issues, etc.	Assists in the orientation process in collaboration with the field instructor.
Consults with SSW Field Faculty/Liaison regarding student progress, performance issues, and integration between field practicum and course work. Attends all site visits.	Collaborates with field instructor and provides input regarding student's progress and performance issues. Attends site visits as schedule permits.
Attends 3-hour Field Agency Orientation at University	