

# SERVICE LEARNING

## BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM



### WHY SERVICE LEARNING?

Undergraduate students enrolled in the Steve Hicks School of Social Work are required to complete service learning in a community agency in the course described below.

The goal of the course is that, through service learning, students understand the importance of civic engagement within the Austin community, and integrate hands-on, experiential learning with classroom learning.

### SERVICE LEARNING COURSE

#### Generalist Social Work Practice (Service Learning II)

Students are social work majors or minors learning how to form relationship with others and gaining knowledge about the change process.

Purposes: Opportunity to observe the change process; practice relationship-building skills; learn about social justice issues impacting agency clients; develop sense of future social work career.

### WHAT ABOUT STUDENT OVERSIGHT?

All students must have oversight within the service learning agency. The agency's contact person approves student hours and complete a one-page student evaluation.

Oversight by a social worker is recommended but not required. If not available, student contact with a social worker practicing in a similar setting or with a similar population is recommended.

### STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ 30 hours of service learning
- ✓ Arrange service learning placement with agency
- ✓ Set learning objectives with agency's contact person
- ✓ Track hours
- ✓ Reflect on experience in conjunction with classroom learning

### AGENCY REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ Provide student oversight and training
- ✓ Provide a student experience that:
  - Aligns with social work values
  - Complements and deepens classroom learning
  - Includes some contact with clients or community members

### SOCIAL WORK VALUES

- Service
- Social justice
- Dignity and worth of every person
- Importance of human relations
- Integrity

### QUESTIONS?

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