



Master of Social Work Program

Field Education FAQ

Q: How many practicums do I have during my MSW program?

A: There are 2. One Generalist or Foundation Practicum and the other Specialized Practicum or Advanced Generalist Practicum.

The Generalist is during the first year of program

The Specialized is during the Second and Third Year of Your Programs

Advanced Standing Students complete 1 practicum, Specialized

Q: When do I start first practicum?

A: Full time students after completing one semester in the program. Part time students start after completing two semesters in the program.

Advanced Standing Students start placement during the first semester in the program

Q: Can I use my place of Employment?

A: Yes, MBU does permit students to use their place of employment and current role for one of there placements. However, this placement must meet following Criteria:

- The employment position should be related to Social Work and allow students to engage in activities that are related to Social Work Competencies.
- There should be opportunities for a new learning experience
- Employers must approve and agree to MSW Program Affiliation Agreement
- Field Instructor should be a different person than Employment Supervisor
- Employment can only be used for one Practicum (either Generalist or Specialized)

Q: How many hours do I need?

A: The Generalist Practicum is 450 hours, completed at one site over two semesters

The Specialized Practicum is 450 hours, completed at one site over two semesters

Practicum will be a total of 900 hours completed during your MSW program. Hours cannot roll over between Generalist and Specialized Practicum

Advanced Standing hours may vary, as they may be credited up to 450 hours of practicum hours if documentation is provided from BSW on amount of hours completed. If no documentation is provided, the student will be credited 400 hours and have 500 hours to complete in MSW program.

Q: Can I use the same placement for both Generalist and Specialized Practicum?

A: No, the placement should be different. However, there may be some instances that the placement could be the same if the roles and tasks are different.

Q: I work Monday-Friday 8-5, Will I be able to do my practicum and work?

A: Most Social Work Agencies do ask Social Work Students to be available during traditional hours for Supervision and enhancing exposure to various activities. There are some opportunities for evening practicums, but these are based on sites availability to offer supervision and MSW related activities during those time frames.

Q: Do I find my own practicum or does the program find my placement?

A: The process is collaborative between students and faculty

Students will meet with a MBU faculty member to discuss placement options. Students should come to the meeting with ideas for their practicum. Students are responsible for initiating and securing their placement.

Q: When do I begin the process of looking for placement?

A: The semester prior to placement starts

Students will be required to watch Pre Field Orientation video, complete quiz, complete pre placement tasks, and meet with Field Education staff