

SOWK 480-481
Field Seminar
Weekly Log/ Journal
Format

I. Hours:

Dates: _____

Hours this week: _____

Cumulative Hours: _____

II. Description of Activities

What did you do during the week?

Example:

1. Shadowed field instructor for 1 day.
2. Visited other departments to get acquainted with agency.
3. Helped client get in touch with social agency to learn about qualifying for food stamps.

III. Feelings & Reactions

What are your reactions to the things/ people you encountered this week?

Example:

1. I was shocked by the number of people who indicated they were hungry and didn't have enough to eat.
2. I saw some very sick people today who have terminal illnesses. I left feeling sad for them. I had trouble sleeping one night because I couldn't get a child who has a terminal disease out of my mind.

IV. Values

Write about your personal values and social work values and how you observed them in relationship to your experiences this week.

Example:

I spoke with a client who had been treated rudely by a staff person at another social agency. I am bothered that some people who serve poor clients can treat them with disrespect. This is a violation of the social work value of the "worth and dignity of the person."

V. Observation of Sociocultural Factors:

What are some sociological principles that might help explain and/or understand things you have observed in your placement this week?

Example:

I talked with a Hispanic teen-ager who is having serious conflict with her parents because she wishes to date a fellow student who has asked her to the senior prom. This is an example of generational conflict in families related to the cultural perspective of immigrant parents and the peer culture of their children. Issues of cultural diversity and family structure are important for understanding this situation.

VI. Integration of Theory and Practice.

Think about your experiences this week and relate theories, concepts, and ideas you have learned in the social work curriculum that help explain what you have observed. Be as specific as possible.

Example:

This week I noticed that some people have difficulty getting to the DSS to update their Medicaid eligibility. The only location at which this can be done in the county is in the county seat and many people live 20 or miles away. Theories of community and social advocacy provide important insight into this problem. Someone needs to assume responsibility to advocate for clients to have easier access to the resources to which they are entitled.

Source: Coggins, Kim, & Bonnie F. Hatchett. *Field Practicum: Skill Building From a Multicultural Perspective*. Eddie Bowers Publishing Company, 2002. pp. 161-164.