

Assessment Plan

Western Michigan University

Social Work

Mission Statement: The Western Michigan University School of Social Work educates social workers to advocate for social and economic justice and personal well being for all people. The faculty provide leadership on a local, national, and international level through research, scholarship, community service and partnerships, and other creative activities relevant to the profession.

Vision Statement: We seek to be a school that:

- Strengthens students' critical thinking skills, helps them formulate a vision of a just society, and enables them to move towards the realization of their vision
 - prepares ethical, competent, reflective practitioners to work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and institutions within a global and changing environment
 - Fosters sensitivity to diversity, cultural competence, and practice effectiveness
- is a nurturing, respectful, inclusive environment that maximizes the contributions and development of students, faculty, and staff

Outcome: Educational Outcome

Students will gain confidence in core social work competencies as specified by BSW and MSW program objectives including Interpersonal practice (IP), and Policy, Planning and Administration (PPA) concentrations.

Track: BSW

Outcome Status: Active

Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
A 17-item, self-report survey completed by graduating seniors in their final semester. The instrument asks students to rate their skill level on items relevant to the BSW curriculum. Each item is rated twice, once for a pre-BSW level of perceived competence and once for a post-BSW level of perceived competence. Assessment Method Category: Survey-Student	Median rating of student confidence in performing each program objective is 80% or higher at posttest.	This survey is administered to BSW students in the Spring and Summer I terms in the designated exit course for graduating seniors, which is SWRK 4600.	Yes
Students are rated on their level of preparedness and competence (on a scale of 0-100 percent confidence in ability) in all areas identified in the program objectives. It is administered toward the end of two field education courses. Assessment Method Category: Field Experience Evaluation	Median rating of field instructors' perceptions of student's confidence in performing each program objective is 80% or higher at posttest.	This survey is sent to field instructors toward the end of the Spring term for graduating MSW & BSW students, and toward the end of Summer I term for graduating BSW & MSW students in Grand Rapids and	Yes
Surveys will be sent to graduates of the BSW and MSW programs annually during the summer. Surveys are sent to graduates at 1 and 5 years after their graduation from the program. The survey consists of questions relating to employment, educational preparation and satisfaction, and licensing exam status. The educational preparation and satisfaction section includes a self-report asking respondents to evaluate (on a scale of 0-100% confidence) their professional preparation for their role as beginning generalist social workers. These 13 items will measure program objectives of the BSW program and the MSW foundation objectives. Assessment Method Category: Survey-Alumni	Median rating of graduates' perceptions of confidence in performing each program objective is 80% or higher.	This survey is administered on a yearly basis to graduates of the School of Social Work for whom the University has current mailing address information.	Yes

Outcome: Preparedness for Practice

Students will have perceived competence in finding social work employment, success with passing the licensure exam on first try, preparedness for social work practice, and satisfaction.

Track: MSW-PP&A

Outcome Status: Active

Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
Each student will maintain a portfolio with examples of classroom assignments and field-experience materials indicative of exposure to and mastery of learning objectives as specified by the BSW curriculum plan. Each student's advisor will review the portfolio prior to beginning and upon completion of an internship. Assessment Method Category: Portfolio Review	A student must pass all required components of the portfolio with a grade of "C" or better in order to pass the field portion of the BSW Program.		No
A survey of employers will assess (on a 5-pt scale) the performance and preparation of BSW graduates and will measure program objectives. It will be administered every 5 years. Assessment Method Category: Survey-Employer			No
Surveys will be sent to graduates of the BSW and MSW programs annually during the summer. Surveys are sent to graduates at 1 and 5 years after their graduation from the program. The survey consists of questions relating to employment, educational preparation and satisfaction, and licensing exam status. The educational preparation and satisfaction section includes a self-report asking respondents to evaluate (on a scale of 0-100% confidence) their professional preparation for their role as beginning generalist social workers. These 13 items will measure program objectives of the BSW program and the MSW foundation objectives. Assessment Method Category: Survey-Alumni	Median rating of graduates' perceptions of confidence in performing each program objective is 80% or higher.	This survey is administered on a yearly basis to graduates of the School of Social Work for whom the University has current mailing address information.	Yes
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Outcome: Licensure

Graduates will take exam and apply for licensure following graduation.

Outcome Status: Active

Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
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Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
<p>scale of 0-100% confidence) their professional preparation for their role as beginning generalist social workers. These 13 items will measure program objectives of the BSW program and the MSW foundation objectives.</p> <p>Assessment Method Category: Survey-Alumni</p>			

Outcome: Employment

Alumni will be employed in field of social work following graduation.

Outcome Status: Active

Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
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Outcome: Program Satisfaction

Student will report satisfaction with educational experience with BSW/MSW degree from WMU.

Outcome Status: Active

Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
<p>Surveys will be sent to graduates of the BSW and MSW programs annually during the summer. Surveys are sent to graduates at 1 and 5 years after their graduation from the program. The survey consists of questions relating to employment, educational preparation and satisfaction, and licensing exam status. The educational preparation and satisfaction section includes a self-report asking respondents to evaluate (on a scale of 0-100% confidence) their professional preparation for their role as beginning generalist social workers. These 13 items will measure program objectives of the BSW program and the MSW foundation objectives.</p> <p>Assessment Method Category: Survey-Alumni</p>	<p>Median rating of graduates' perceptions of student's confidence in performing each program objective is 80% or higher.</p>	<p>This survey is administered on a yearly basis to graduates of the School of Social Work for whom the University has current mailing address information.</p>	Yes