**RADFORD UNIVERSITY**

**Waldron College of Health and Human Services**

**School of Social Work**

**SOWK 791/792: Concentration Practicum and Seminar**

**Course Description:**

A two semester concentration practicum and supporting seminar provide a forum in which the knowledge, skills, and values of professional social work practice, along with the concepts and theories which support community-based family practice (CBFP) are applied. The ecological, systems, empowerment, and social construction theories provide the frame for critical analysis, assessment, and practice evaluation. The skills and knowledge taught in SOWK 783 and 784 are applied through multiple environments and across the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Service delivery issues, agency/organizational dynamics, and practice skills are emphasized. The knowledge and skills for direct and macro practice with diverse populations are developed and applied, emphasizing the dismantling of oppression and applying methods which work toward social and economic justice for populations at risk. The seminar supports the exploration of ethical decision making grounded in social work values as a base for professional development. This is a practicum experience (300 hours per semester) in which a seminar is embedded (2.1.1 – 2.1.10 a-d).

SOWK 791 (5 credits) SOWK 792 (5 credits)

Per semester = 300 hours in the field (~22 hours per week) + 18 hours seminar = 318 hours per semester

**Students are required to intern in the respective agency at least three days per week.**

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the graduate program in social work and SOWK 642 (with a grade of B or better) or SOWK 679 (with a grade of B or better). SOWK 783 as a pre- or co-requisite.

Educational Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze, intervene, and evaluate, with a high degree of autonomy and proficiency:
   * Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly (2.1.1)
   * Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice (2.1.2)
2. Promote social and economic justice; to confront injustice and oppression; and to work to eliminate poverty and social problems with individuals, families, groups, and organizations, locally, nationally, and globally:
   * Advance human rights and social and economic justice (2.1.5)
   * Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services (2.1.8)
3. Demonstrate reciprocity in their practice, as a part of the ecological perspective, collaborating, communicating, and consulting at every level; joining with allies to confront oppression, engage in social change, and affect policy; practicing empowering, strengths-based multicultural practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities:
   * Engage diversity and differences in practice (2.1.4)
4. Critically evaluate and modify the quality of their own practice, analyzing their own values and those of the profession:
   * Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments (2.1.3)
   * Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment (2.1.7)
   * Respond to contexts that shape practice (2.1.9)
   * Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities (2.1.10 a-d)
5. Apply advanced information technology to inform community based family practice.
6. Demonstrate skills in research design, analysis, and knowledge dissemination, and assume accountability for ethical practice. (2.1.6)