**Interruption of Practicum:**

**Practicum Education Strategies for Remote Competency Development**

(Developed by UNC-Chapel Hill’s Social Work Practicum Education staff and revised by NC State BSW Practicum Coordinator for BSW internships, March 2020)

**Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior**

* Arrange remote supervision with Social Work Supervisor, seminar instructor.
* Revise Work Plan to include remote activities.
* Identify TED Talks and YouTube videos and podcasts related to social work practice. Use the Report Form template on Moodle to record what you watched and to tally hours spent.
* Select a standard in the NASW Code of Ethics. Reflect in writing on differences or points of tension between the Code and your agency’s policies/procedures and/or services.
* Read the literature on the Code of Ethics and write a summary about how it applies to social work practice.
* Review ethics-related case studies faculty or reflect on personal experience regarding ethical quandary in practicum and respond in writing to factors that must be considered.
* Review history of NASW Code of Ethics. Reflect on its evolution to address gaps. Identify specific areas where gaps remain.
* Review an ethical decision making model (sample: <https://www.naswma.org/page/100/Essential-Steps-for-Ethical-Problem-Solving.htm>) and use this to analyze an ethical dilemma from your agency.

**Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice**

* Utilize self-reflection to think about personal how identities and biases may show up in practice.
* Apply a diversity and difference lens to report on your agency’s culture.
* Read and write a reflection on current literature related to diversity and difference.
* Write a reflection looking at how your own intersecting identities impact your work and relationships within the practicum agency and with client/community groups being served.
* Review the NASW Code of Ethics standards related to oppression, discrimination and marginalization. Suggest improvements.
* In writing, identify the unique cultural composition of the client population served by your agency. Identify ways in which the agency meets the needs of the client population and identify how this could be improved.
* Research, identify, and complete an online training focused on a population served by the agency. Identify how this information could be used to better advocate for the needs of this population in practice.
* Identify TED Talks, YouTube videos and podcasts related to social work practice. Write about personal reactions and how your learning applies to diversity and difference in practice.

**Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice**

* Complete writing assignment about strategies that promote social justice and human rights, as they may pertain to those your agency serves.
* Create list of ways your agency already advocates for social, economic, environmental justice and human rights; if they do not, what could they do to improve advocacy?
* Review an advocacy agency website (see Advocacy 101 Power Point on SW 490 Moodle site to find links to advocacy agencies) that you would like to learn more about and write a summary of how their work could impact your agency.
* Research a human rights issue of interest and write a summary how human rights organizations are working to ameliorate the condition.
* Identify TED Talks, YouTube videos and podcasts related to social work practice. Write about personal reactions and how your learning applies to advancing human rights.

**Competency 4: Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice**

* Find research articles about your agency’s area of practice. Summarize findings and share these with your agency.
* Develop focus group questions or survey instruments related to a need in the agency, if your agency would like this done.

**Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice**

* Write a letter to the editor about a policy issue impacting your agency.
* Explore the policy positions of state or national candidates running for office, especially those on social welfare issues that concern you.
* Explore some local, state, or federal policies that impact your organization and/or the affected community; write summaries of these policies.
* Learn how your agency handles voter registration and voter education for staff and clients; ask if they would like any ideas on how to inform and engage staff and clients for upcoming fall elections.

**Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

* Attend virtual meetings with agency staff or clients.
* Reflect in writing about how your personal experiences, beliefs, and identities impact your relationships in your practicum.
* Plan and participate in remote meetings, support groups, or other interventions.
* Review literature on organizational culture and cultural humility and write about what you observe on these lines in your agency.

**Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

* If your agency wants this, create an assessment instrument (survey, focus group questions, interview questions) to better understand community/client needs.
* In your Case Study or Final Project, add how your agency assesses effectiveness of their interventions and practices.

**Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

* Explain the intervention you implemented in your Case Study or Final Project.
* Give ideas on what you believe may be improved or ideal intervention strategies to assist those your agency serves.

**Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

* Write about how this global COVID-19 crisis has affected how your agency operates, and how it affects you personally.