

Himachal Pradesh University
(NAAC Accredited “A” Grade University)
‘Department of Sociology & Social Work’
Summer Hill-171005

Field Work Practicum

Fieldwork is an integral component of Social Work Education. Fieldwork in social work is recognized as an instrument of socialisation which prepares the student for a future role as a professional social work worker. It is considered to be ‘learning by doing’. A meaningful fieldwork placement enhances the students understanding of the social work profession and the nature of the problems addressed by the profession itself. Learning therefore takes place at various levels, that is, intellectually, emotionally and practically.

Fieldwork plays a pivotal role and provides the basis to apply the theoretical content covered in the classroom, to real life situations as part of a student’s preparation to become a professional social worker. It offers an environment where students are given opportunities to align theoretical knowledge and learning with the needs of society and the market place.

Furthermore, fieldwork is an opportunity for aligning theoretical knowledge and learning, with the needs of society and the market place. It also gives students the opportunity to take responsibility for addressing people’s problems. If handled effectively, fieldwork becomes an important tool that is appropriate and responsive to social development issues. It is designed to give the student exposure and experience on the functioning of social welfare agencies and social welfare provisioning.

Objectives

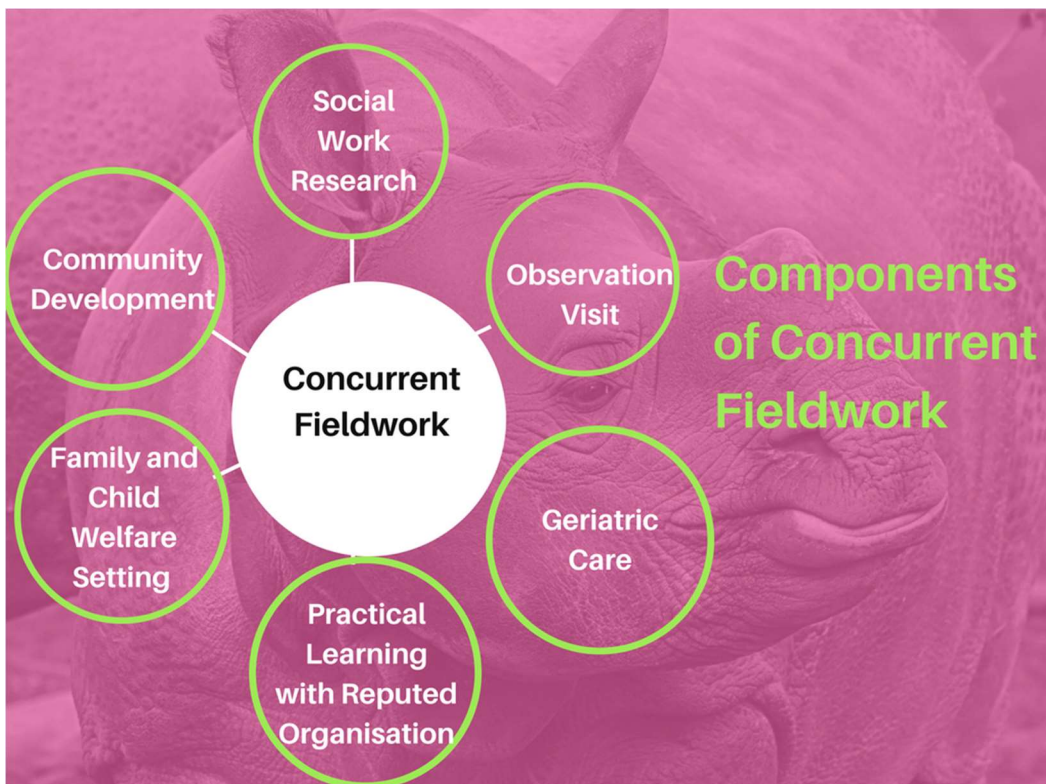
- Development of professional skills through learning to use knowledge for the study and analysis of problems and selection of appropriate means to solve them;
- Development of skills in problem-solving at the macro and micro levels;
- Integration of classroom learning with field practice;
- Development of skills required for professional practice at the particular level of training;
- Development of professional attitudes, values and commitment.

Social Work Practicum with nine opportunities is designed to provide scope to develop and enhance professional practice skills. Learning is aided through observation, analysis of social realities and experiences of participation in designing and providing social work intervention.

The learning opportunities are provided in the nine areas



Main Components of Concurrent Fieldwork



The fieldwork is closely supervised by both the faculty member and agency supervisor. Every student is expected to complete 20-25 concurrent fieldwork in each semester. Every week the student has to give presentation on his/her field experiences.

Further, fieldwork practicum also comprises of winter internship for the duration of one month after the end of first and third semesters. There is a mandatory one-week summer internship (rural/urban) after the end of second semester and students of fourth semester will be engaged in reputed organisations for their Block Placement.

Fieldwork assessment pattern:

- Internal assessment through fieldwork presentation/reports/seminar/active participation in field/problem-solving skills/professional development = 80%
- After the end of each semester viva – voce = 20% (By external expert)