INTERNSHIP AND MENTORING

The PhD program includes an internship in Advanced Social Work Practice, Social Work Education, or Applied Social Work Research. The internship is intended to provide students with the opportunity to enhance their expertise and knowledge in a particular area. This is achieved through a mentoring process. The internship involves 250 hours, including 39 hours of direct mentoring.

Note: PhD scholars must submit an internship proposal to the Chair of the PhD program in School of Social Work for approval prior to the commencement of his/her internship.

Instruction - Mentoring

The PhD scholar will be mentored by an instructor who has established expertise in the particular area of the student's internship. Mentors are required to have PhD.

In order to access other resource persons, it is possible for the instructor to partner with an individual who holds a masters degree in social work or a related discipline (in exceptional circumstances a person with a bachelor's degree with extensive experience may be approved), and who is working in the field of interest. In this situation, the PhD instructor would serve as the overall educational agent, providing scholarly content beyond the master's level, and assigning the grade; while the individual holding the masters degree would act as the primary mentor.

Preparing an Internship Proposal

Each PhD scholar is expected to consult with his/her supervisor and/or other appropriate persons in the preparation of the internship proposal.

Internship proposals are to be forwarded to the Chair of the PhD program at least 4 weeks prior to the commencement of the internship.

Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on the student's demonstration of advanced and specialized practice in a focused area. The form and nature of the assignments will be determined collaboratively between the mentor and PhD scholar, and will be detailed in the proposal. One assignment must include written work by the PhD scholar which may be a report, a journal article, a curriculum-based document etc.

Proposal

The proposal must contain the following information:

- X PhD scholar name and type of internship (education, research or practice);
- X mentor(s) name and qualifications (append cv if external to the school);
- X internship agency;

- X time frame;
- X specific focus of mentorship;
- X statement of learning goals, objectives, and evaluation criteria;
- X proposed activities to facilitate achieving learning needs;
- X a statement of expectations of the mentor(s);
- X type of written assignment to be produced

The proposal should be no more than 3-5 pages in length.