

Effects of the Social Work Field Practicum on the Wellbeing of Non-traditional and Underserved Students: A Mixed-Methods Study

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Abstract : Using a mixed-methods approach, this study explored costs to student wellbeing generated by the social work field practicum requirement. The project was conducted by faculty at a medium sized university in the United States. Social work educators and field practicum instructors participated in interviews. Students and former students completed surveys on the topic. The data analysis revealed emotional burdens as well as threats to student wellbeing in association with the fieldwork required for those in pursuit of a social work degree. The study includes recommendations of anti-oppressive approaches for academic programs and implications for further research.

Keywords : emotional wellbeing, field practicum, mixed-methods, social justice

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