## FINAL PAPER – THE SENIOR INTEGRATIVE PAPER

***Introduction*** *– In this paper you will demonstrate the ability to apply and integrate the knowledge, values, and skills of beginning generalist social work practice. You will have the opportunity to present your paper before the faculty during the spring semester.*

***Guidelines*** *– Choose one case (it may be a client system of any size) that you have worked with during your senior field placement. If you have been in brief service, you may need to use several cases to cover the material. As is expected in process recordings and classroom discussions, be sure to disguise the identity of the client or client system, and always use a pseudonym. Please use the following outline to help you to structure your paper.*

1. ***Practicum Context***

***(a).*** *Give a brief description of the practicum/setting: purpose/mission, population/community served (demographics), how the agency is funded, and client referral system (how clients come to the setting).* ***(b).*** *Describe your role and function in the practicum.*

1. ***Literature Review***

*Give a brief, in-depth review of the relevant empirical literature to provide an understanding of the client population and/or service that you provide in your practicum. For this literature review, it is expected you will make use of a* minimum *of ten (10) empirical sources (includes primary source books and peer-reviewed journal articles).*

1. ***Case Material and Focus of Intervention***

*(For this section, you may refer to your process recordings and/or use new case material.)*

* 1. ***Case Material.*** *Summarize your case material and your work with the client system. Give a brief history of the client’s involvement with you and the agency, and the focus of your intervention. Be sure to discuss the type of goals established between you and your client and indicate how the goals relate to the mission of the practicum.*
  2. ***Application of Theory: Case Assessment***

1. *Create a bio/psycho/social/cultural/spiritual assessment of your client system that integrates theory in the assessment. Be sure to account for the micro, mezzo, and macro systems interacting with your client.*
2. *In your discussion of family dynamics, make use of family systems theory to describe the prevalent issue(s) in the family, the system’s internal and external boundaries, and roles (including what role your client has within the family system).*
3. *In addition to family systems theory, use at least* three *other relevant theories/theorists that specifically relate to the developmental stage, problems, resources or issues pertinent to the life stage of your client. For example, if you are working with older adults, what theories of older adult development help you understand your client? If you are working with Latino adolescents, what theories of adolescent development help you understand your client?*
4. *Do the theories you have chosen account for diversity such as race, culture, gender and ethnicity? If not, what theories can you find in the literature to help assess your client system and frame your practice interventions?*
5. *The theories you use should come from the empirical literature, and not solely from your textbooks.*
6. ***Applications of Practice Models***

***(a).The Generalist Intervention Model (GIM).*** *Discuss how you have utilized the planned change process described by Kirst-Ashman and Hull. Identify skills you have used in the various stages of the process.*

1. ***The Interactional Model.*** *Illustrate your use of helping and relationship skills described by Shulman.*
2. ***The Strengths Perspective.*** *In what ways have you guided the client(s) to relevant resources in order to both account for and maximize assets in the client system?*
3. ***Conscious Use of Self and Cultural Competence.*** *Please apply* to yourself *one of the cultural competence models that you have learned. How has this knowledge assisted you to develop culturally- competent social work practice skills when working with a diverse population? Describe a situation in which you have had to adjust your skills and service delivery because of the diversity of the client.*
4. ***Values, Ethics, and Legal Duties.*** *What kinds of ethical issues have you encountered in your work with clients (refer to NASW Code of Ethics)? If you have encountered an ethical dilemma, how have you resolved it? Have there been value differences between you and the client system and/or you and other service providers? If so, how have you dealt with these? How do any of the six legal duties apply in this case?*
5. ***Policy***
6. *Identify an* agency policy *that assists or interferes with the delivery of services to clients. Describe how policies are determined in your agency and whether you get feedback from the clients that your agency serves. If a policy has caused problems for workers and/or clients, what outcome would you like to see that differs from the current practice?*
7. *Identify a* state or federal policy *that impacts your work with clients. Give a brief analysis of the policy using Barusch’s (2009) social justice framework for analysis.*
8. *How do these policies influence your behavior? In what ways could you assume the role of advocate? (Consider various levels of action that might be taken.)*
9. **Evaluation of Practice**
10. ***Evaluation of Roles****. Review the many roles that a social worker plays when working with client systems. Which ones do you most frequently use? Which roles are the most comfortable and which are the most uncomfortable for you?*
11. **Evaluation of Skills and “Hang-Ups**.” Which social work skills do you think you use well? Which skills do you think you need to focus on improving? Why do you think these skills are challenging for you? Identify a bias you carry that may still impact your work with clients. Give a clear example of how this bias impacts your work.
12. ***Planned Change.*** *Based on the above, what changes would you like to make in your practice? How do you think you can go about making these changes?*
13. ***Required Format***
14. *APA Style is* ***required****. A full list of references must conclude your paper. Other guidelines: your paper should be no fewer than 20 and no longer than 25 pages. It is important for you to be accurate, precise, and concise in your writing.*
15. *You must proofread for typos and grammatical errors.*
16. *To accompany case material, you must include an eco-map (genogram optional).*

*Submit a bound copy of your paper by 4pm on the final day of classes for the semester. Please retain an additional copy for your files and for the presentation. For your presentation in the spring semester, you are encouraged to develop a five minute power point presentation to summarize the main points of your paper, the format for which will be posted to D2L.*