

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE

CASE STUDY GUIDELINES

Please complete one of the 3 following case studies depending on your Placement field of practice. Instructions for the submission of your work appear at the end of this document.

CASE STUDY Option 1 (DIRECT SERVICE PLACEMENT)

1. The Agency

Description of the agency, whether it is statutory or voluntary; its organisation and functioning; the area it serves, with relevant demographic details; its anti-oppressive and equal opportunities policies; the team in which the student is placed, whether purchaser or provider.

2. The Service User/Client

- Name (made anonymous)
- Age and date of birth (made anonymous)
- Address (district only)

3. The Referral

- Events leading up to the referral, including any previous Social Work intervention
- Present situation and reason for referral

4. Family

- Family of origin - names; ages (parents, siblings); whether still alive; where living; any relevant information
- Family of adoption – names; ages (spouse (co-habitee), children); if living with the client; any relevant information

5. Assessment

- How the assessment was reached
- Discussion of the theoretical perspectives influencing the assessment.
- Review of relevant literature.
- Summary of assessment together with expected aims and goals of intervention.

6. Methods of Intervention

- Reasons for deciding on the particular method(s) of intervention, for example, any agency constraints.
- Reference to relevant literature.

7. Chronological Development of Social Work Intervention

- The duration of the case – inclusive dates covered, with frequency and length of interviews; venue and reason for this
- Outline the case as it developed, discussing your hypotheses interaction with client(s) and focussing on The period of:
 - Engagement
 - Middle period
 - Disengagement
- Describe your interaction with the client(s), any modification of original aims, goals and methods of intervention, with reasons; any difficulties and how they were resolved
- Describe the outcome and whether or not it was the expected outcome

8. Summary and Conclusion

- Work achieved
- What, if anything, on reflection you would do differently
- How the ending was managed – client's reactions, student's reactions
- Whether the case was closed or transferred – give reasons
- Learning objectives – what were they and were they fulfilled

CASE STUDY Option 2 (OUTLINE OF RESEARCH / PROJECT)

The following is only relevant to those students undertaking research, special projects or evaluations as part of their placements and who do not have client contact. All other students are required to undertake Case Study 1.

1. The Agency

Description of the agency, whether it is statutory or voluntary; its organisation and functioning; the area it serves, with relevant demographic details; its anti-oppressive and equal opportunities policies; the team in which the student is placed, whether purchaser or provider.

2. Present an executive summary of your Research. This can include but is not limited to the following

- Purpose of research, project or evaluation
- Background
- Methodology
- Findings
- Summary of findings and discussion
- Conclusions or recommendations

CASE STUDY Option 3 (Outline of Social Policy)

The following is only relevant to those students undertaking social policy Placements and who do not have client contact.

1. The Agency

Description of the agency, whether it is statutory or voluntary; its organisation and functioning; the area it serves, with relevant demographic details; its anti-oppressive and equal opportunities policies; the team in which the student is placed, whether purchaser or provider.

2. Present an executive summary of your Policy Work. This can include but is not limited to the following

- Background to policy formation
- Description of the policy
- Social Policy ideologies/principles/theory employed
- Ethical issues
- What do you think the impact of this policy will be?

CASE STUDY SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Word Limit: 1500 WORDS

Due Date: The Case Study is due to be submitted one week prior to the completion of your Placement. The Case Study must be read and signed by your supervisor /field educator.

One copy is to be forwarded to the liaison person, and one copy to Monash Social Work Department fieldwork administration. Please also keep a copy for your own records.