

Social Work Program Learning Outcomes

To accomplish the identified program goals, upon completion of the PLNU social work program, a student must be able to achieve objectives clustered in three areas: 1) knowledge; 2) professional practice that is guided by values and ethics and inspired by faith; and 3) development of professional identity and capacity. Program objectives in these three areas parallel the institutional learning outcomes (ILOs). The program learning outcomes for social work focus on the integration of knowledge, skills, and values and ethics that are **demonstrated** through professional practice. Although Bloom's taxonomy for cognitive processes ranks 'applying' and 'demonstrate' as mid-level (3) on the dimension matrix, as an applied profession social work ranks the demonstration of competence in the ability to understand knowledge, recognize and integrate the influence of context, critically assess data, and discern and operate within an established ethical framework as a high level skill, equivalent to dimensions 5 or 6 in the matrix that assesses cognition only. The learning outcomes include:

- *Program Outcome 1:* Demonstrate an understanding of integrated body of knowledge required of a "generalist practitioner" as defined by CSWE
- *Program Outcome 2:* Engage in professional practice that is guided by values and ethics and inspired by faith:
 - 2A. Possess a command of the professional values and ethics required of a "general practitioner"
 - 2B. Demonstration of an awareness of the influence of Christian and Wesleyan perspectives on social work practice
 - 2C: Demonstration of competence in the concrete practice of professional skills, especially those skills required by CSWE of a "general practitioner"
- *Program Outcome 3:* Possess the capacity to transition to careers and/or graduate education in social work

The social work program will produce students who achieve 16 learning outcomes (competencies the professional foundation) in order to demonstrate achievement of the program objectives. Report section 2 B links the program objectives with the appropriate segment of the PLNU Mission and the Institutional Learning Outcomes.

Section 2 B. Concurrence of Mission, ILOs, and PLOs

PLNU Mission: TEACH

ILO: 1B: Think critically and analytically

PLO: Part I: Knowledge (Teaching Knowledge): Demonstrate an understanding of integrated body of knowledge required of a "generalist practitioner" as defined by CSWE – (objectives)

- I. 1. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of social work practice.
- I. 2. Apply the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice with systems of any size (individuals, families, groups, organizations, networks, communities).
- I. 3. Understand and interpret the history of the social work profession and its contemporary structures and issues.
- I. 4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and apply strategies of advocacy and social change that promote economic and social justice.
- I. 5. Understand theoretical frameworks supported by empirical evidence in understanding individual development and behavior across the life span and interactions among individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

PLNU Mission: SHAPE

ILO:2B: Living gracefully in a complex world

PLOs Part II: Practice Framed by Professional Values, Ethics, and Faith (Shaping Practice)

SWK Goal A. Possess a command of the professional values and ethics required of a "general practitioner".

SWK Objectives

- II. 6. Understand the core values and ethics of the social work profession and practice accordingly
- II. 7. Empower others through culturally-sensitive engagement with others that practices without discrimination and with respect, knowledge, and skills related to clients' age, class, color, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.
- II. 8. Use communication skills differentially across client populations, networks, and communities.
- II. 9. Understand the intersection of Christian and professional social work values and articulates how a Wesleyan perspective complements social work practice.

PLNU Mission: SEND

ILO:

PLOs Part III: Professional Identity and Capacity for Further Education (Sending Professionals)

10. Function within the context of agency and community service delivery systems and seek necessary change.
11. Use supervision and consultation appropriate to social work practice.
12. Demonstrate personal responsibility for his/her own learning and professional development and evaluate his/her own practice and promotes continuous self improvement.
13. Demonstrate sufficient personal awareness to promote a professional use of self.
14. Possess basic knowledge and skills required for acceptance for graduate study in Social Work.
15. Analyze, formulate, and influence social policies.
16. Evaluate research studies, apply research findings to practice, and evaluate their own practice intervention.