Assessment Plan

Program ___SOCIAL WORK_____________
College ____NATHAN WEISS _____________
Kean University

Provide the Mission and Assessment Process for your program. The description of your program that is on the website is a great starting point for your Mission. Go to your program’s page on the Kean website and copy and paste the program description below under the heading, Mission.

Mission: The mission of the graduate social work program at Kean University is to provide excellence and equity in social work education by preparing a diverse student population for professional social work practice within ethical guidelines. Further, Kean University’s social work graduates will be competent to increase access to services and promote social justice through applied research, policy advocacy and advanced practice with individuals, groups, families, organizations and communities.

The _Graduate Social Work Program_ at Kean University has several related goals that are aligned with the University Mission.

Goals: . **Teaching from an ethical value base for a professional practice that respects and celebrates diversity,** the goal of the graduate social work program is to stimulate intellectual inquiry to social conditions that foster human suffering and identify avenues for solutions that are geared towards social and economic justice. **Eclectic theories will be taught to inspire critical thinking, sensitivity and awareness of global forces on individuals, groups, families, organizations and communities. Students will use applied research, policy advocacy skills and knowledge to promote access to services and to improve the quality of life. A teaching and learning environment that nurtures professional growth will be supported by faculty scholarship and community service.**

(paste here)

**Assessment Process:** *(Your Assessment Process can be modeled after the Sociology’s by filling in the blanks within this paragraph or you can develop the wording as necessary.)*

**Graduate Social Work**  students must have a four year undergraduate degree with 16 credits of liberal arts courses to include Statistics and Biology. These prerequisites courses provide a sound backbone of the discipline with regard to the research and theoretical aspects for the rigor of graduate education in social work as well as the various areas of study within the field. There are five core courses, HBSE, Social Welfare Policy, Research, Generalist Practice and Field Experience which serves as the primary vehicle for assessing the foundation knowledge and skills of our students. Beyond the five core courses, there are additional course that provide depth for the beginning of concentration areas in advanced generalist practice in the last year of study, culminating in a research and grant
proposal to qualify for graduation with a masters degree in social work. Therefore, the faculty have agreed to center our assessment on the five core competences as presented in core requirements. Each core course has assessment tools as part of the evaluation process; however, culminating assessment is done in the Beginning and Advanced Generalist Practice SW 5101, SW 5201; SW 6102, SW 6302, SW 6202, SW 6602. In this course, assessment data is collected from assignment that requires students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements.

Extract your program’s Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) as stated in your Mission. Your program should have from 4-6 SLOs as stated in your mission.

After you have enumerated your program SLOs, align your SLOs with the KU SLOs*, and the General Education (GE) SLOs*.

List your Indirect Measures and Direct Measures that the program uses as evidence of students meeting program outcomes (SLOs). Direct Measures need to be a culminating project/assignment to demonstrate achievement of program goals—for MA level programs, this is usually the thesis- A rubric to score this assignment is necessary so that composite data can be collected and analyzed for to inform program decisions that result in program improvement. FOR ALL THREE OF THESE STEPS, PLEASE REFER BACK TO THE EXAMPLE PROVIDED. Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – as aligned with KU SLOs* derived from the Institutional Mission and GE SLOs**. (Data from Direct and Indirect Measures collected each semester in the Capstone Course or a designated, end-of-program course.)

Students who graduate with a _Masters in Social Work_ should be able to:

SLO1: Gain sufficient self-awareness, practice personal reflection and self-correction to eliminate influences of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups.

Direct Measure: Conduct comparative interviews with member of diverse group to compare values and beliefs, develop strategies for personal and professional growth assignment paper. (culminating project/assignment/thesis)
Indirect Measure: self-evaluation of field practice

SLO 2:, Demonstrate effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

Direct Measure: Interviews, process recordings, social history reports (culminating project/assignment/thesis)
Indirect Measure: Self-efficacy questionnaire, field evaluation
SLO 3: Make ethical decisions by applying NASW standards, recognizing and managing personal values in ways that allow professional values to guide practice.
Direct Measure: Written paper on values and beliefs and resolutions of ethical dilemmas in practice.
Indirect measure: Self efficacy questionnaire; field evaluation.

SLO4: Apply theoretically frameworks selectively and differentially to critically assess, analyze and develop mutually agreed on goals for interventions
Direct Measure: Psychosocial reports, development and implementation of treatment plans Assignments.
Indirect Measures: Self-efficacy questionnaire ; self-evaluation and final field evaluation; alumni surveys

SLO5: Engage in research inquiry and findings within ethical standards to inform practice that promotes access to the delivery of services to advance social and economic justice.
Direct Measure: Conduct needs assessments/data gathering, literature review, develop and write grant proposals aimed at improving service delivery.(culminating project/assignment/thesis)
Indirect Measure: Number of students' grant proposals receiving funding; increase in numbers of clients served in an agency using the grant proposal.

SLO 6: Identify and apply social advocacy strategies to promote social and economic justice, locally, nationally, internationally.
Direct Measure: Advocacy plan written to a legislature; presented to agency administrators; Advocacy letter sent to editor of a newspaper (culminating project/assignment/thesis)
Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey; participation and presentations at international conferences.

* KU Student Outcomes: Kean University graduates should be able to:
1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance their skills in professional areas (Prof. pgms)

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes
Student Learning Outcomes – Knowledge: Students will demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and content by:
(K1) applying the scientific method to comprehend natural concepts and processes;
(K2) evaluating major theories and concepts in social sciences;
(K3) relating historical references to literature; and
(K4) evaluating major theories and concepts in the fine arts.
Student Learning Outcomes – Skills: Students will demonstrate the skills necessary to:
(S1) write to communicate and clarify learning;
(S2) communicate effectively through speech;
(S3) solve problems using quantitative reasoning;
(S4) think critically about concepts in multiple disciplines; and (S5) show information literacy.