

Silberman School of Social work at Hunter College

Student Agreement

Abiding by the NASW Code of Ethics & SSSW/Hunter Policies and Procedures

As you embark on this journey to become a social worker, we ask that you commit to the Social Work Code of Ethics and Professional Behavior and Academic Integrity Standards for the School of Social Work. As a student entering the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, we also ask that you abide by all Hunter College policies and procedures. Students must also master academic and field competencies in order to remain in good standing in the program.

These expectations, principles and procedures foster an atmosphere of respect and civility, and a positive learning environment. By signing this document, you acknowledge that you have reviewed the Code of Ethics, Professional Behavior and Academic Standards for the School of Social Work and Hunter College policies. (The Professional Behavior and Academic Standards, which also includes links to the other policies, can be found [here](#).) Failure to abide by these standards and policies may result in a range of sanctions, from warnings to disciplinary actions, to dismissal from the School. We highlight several overarching principles here that should guide your behavior and actions.

General Standards of Professional Comportment

Students are expected to treat all persons in a caring and respectful manner, including recognizing the inherent worth and dignity of every individual and the diversity of world views and cultural values. This includes faculty, administrative staff, fellow students, clients, community members and other professionals and colleagues.

Students are expected to refrain from using language or taking actions which discriminates on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, or mental or physical ability.

Students are expected to foster and cultivate a learning environment where all students are able to express their thoughts, feelings, opinions and ideas and where differences are responded to with humility and respect.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to demonstrate academic integrity in the preparation of assignments, research and scholarly papers. Examples of academic dishonesty include cheating, plagiarism, obtaining unfair advantage in academic work over another student, and falsifications of records and official documents.

Academic and Practicum Competencies

Students are expected to master required competencies in class and in the practicum. These competencies include cognitive skills (the ability to apply knowledge in the classroom and practicum, judgment, self-reflection, critical thinking), communication skills (the ability to appropriately and effectively communicate orally, in writing, and through the use of technology), and to satisfy reading, writing and information literacy requirements for Master's level students.

An inability to meet the standards for social work education include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Being asked to leave two practicums during passage through the school
- Failing two distinct sections of practicum
- Receiving a no credit grade in two or more courses in the same semester, or two no credit grades in the same course
- Failing to maintain an average of B (82.5%) or above

Failure to meet competencies may result in a range of sanctions from warnings, to disciplinary actions, to dismissal from the school.
