

EFFECTIVENESS IN TEACHING PROFESSIONALISM IN A BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK COURSE

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Like other professional programs, social work educators are charged with insuring that students in the discipline are socialized to requirements and expectations as a professional. To respond, the BSW Program created a course addressing professionalism. This in-progress study is designed to evaluate student understanding of social work professionalism. Social work juniors enrolled in a course on professionalism and teamwork completed an initial essay describing the student's perception of what it means to be a professional. A two-week teaching unit followed using the behaviors identified in the program's Rubric for Assessing Professional Behavior. At week seven, students again reflected on what it means to be a professional. Thematic analysis of differences was conducted. Upon completion of the course, a self-assessment and service-learning supervisor evaluation will be analyzed to determine any change in definition, depth of discussion, alignment of perceptions, and themes related to the topic of professionalism.

