



BSW and MSW learning outcomes from an engaged research curriculum

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Abstract:

As part of a CHHS Student Success Project, DSWE students in AY 2017-18 research courses helped collect data from community stakeholders through the following activities: developing surveys and interview scripts, conducting and transcribing interviews, and doing preliminary data analysis. This engaged research project had two primary student learning outcome goals: (1) students would learn first-hand the challenges and rewards facing social workers in our local communities, which would enhance their sense of belonging in the profession; and (2) by engaging in research activities directly related to their career goals, students' fear of research would decrease and their sense of research efficacy would increase. In this presentation, we describe the student learning outcomes based on pre- and post-test data and qualitative analysis of student reflective journals. Overall, improvements were seen in attitudes toward research and social work identity. Differences among student subgroups, and their implications for DSWE curriculum, will be described.