

Description of Pre-Internship

On June 18th, undergraduate social work majors met to prepare for their oncoming internship in an agency or practicum for the summer break and the following semester in their final year of studies. When summer vacation starts, these students will have to report to these practicums for their internships. However, there were a few things they needed to know before they reported to their internship.

First off, social work majors, after their third year of study, are required to intern for a total of 640 hours in the summer and for at least one semester, before they are eligible to graduate. However, students usually have no experience in this field. Therefore, the professors of the Department of Social Work must help guide the students, inform them of how the internship system works, and list courses and syllabuses for the internship, including the case study work and group work.



Interns are not only required to write documents and sit in an office all day long, they must also face clients. Therefore, professors taught the students how to combine both theory and practice, and to have a positive attitude when working in the field. They have to remind the students that they are not just volunteers or students, but interns who are there to explore their careers and gain experience.



A set of guidelines was constructed for the students to follow. For example, the students needed to understand their personal interests and expertise when choosing an internship. After choosing the agency or practicum in which they would intern, they must report on time, and notify their teachers and supervisors. Moreover, they will be supervised most of the time, through seminars or meetings, and the students must keep in touch with their professors and supervisors.



After their internship, students are required to make a presentation about their internship experience in order to discuss their experiences and other matters which they encountered and to share what they learned in the field. Internships are truly effective and useful for gaining experience for students seeking to work in a related field in the future.