

# School of Social Work

## Field Instructor Orientation

Courage. Compassion. Competence.

[www.uakron.edu/socialwork/](http://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/)



The University of Akron  
College of Health Professions

# Mission Statement- Graduate

To prepare students to engage in advanced professional practice with and on behalf of diverse populations in Northeast Ohio with emphasis on the health, well-being, and quality of life of oppressed and vulnerable people.

We promote the dignity and worth of the person, human diversity, cultural competence, and social and economic justice through scientific inquiry, creative activity, and service.

We advance the social work profession through collaboration with the community.

**Courage. Compassion. Competence.**

# **Mission Statement- Undergraduate**

To prepare students for competent and effective generalist practice.

The School of Social Work is committed to empowerment and strengths-based practice through the application of critical thinking skills.

We engage the diverse populations of Northeast Ohio to strengthen systemic well-being.

**Courage. Competence. Compassion.**

**Courage. Competence.  
Compassion.**

# Mission Statement - CHP

The College of Health Professions improve life for individuals, families, and communities by providing health and wellness education with appropriate interventions and solutions that are inter-professional, innovative, and influential. The College prepares students to advance human well-being and to thrive in a rapidly evolving global environment.



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# **Mission Statement- UA**

To ensure student success and leverage our region's unique assets in the creation of knowledge and application of research that **benefits humankind.**

**Courage. Competence. Compassion.**

# Field Placement Agencies



- **100 + organizations**
- **18 counties**
- **Ashland | Ashtabula | Carroll | Cuyahoga | Geauga | Guernsey | Holmes | Lake | Lorain | Mahoning | Medina | Portage | Richland | Stark | Summit | Trumbull | Tuscarawas | Wayne**
- **School of Social Work locations: Akron | Lakewood | Stark | Wayne**
- **Undergraduate & Graduate Programs**

# How do we achieve our mission?

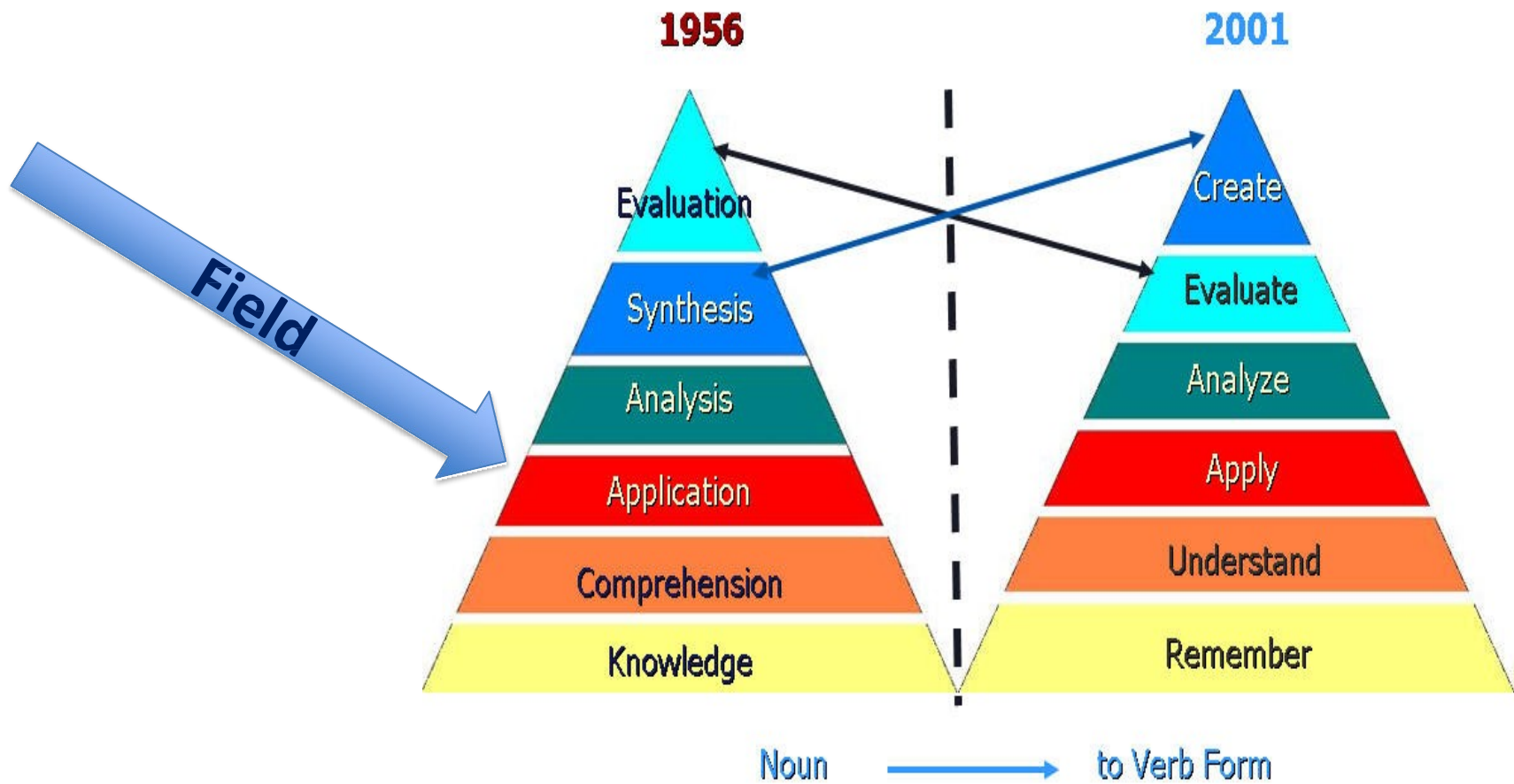
- **Classroom with walls – critical thinking & Affective experiences**

- ✓ **Knowledge**
- ✓ **Comprehension**
- ✓ **Application**
- ✓ **Analysis**
- ✓ **Synthesis**
- ✓ **Evaluation**

Bloom's Taxonomy

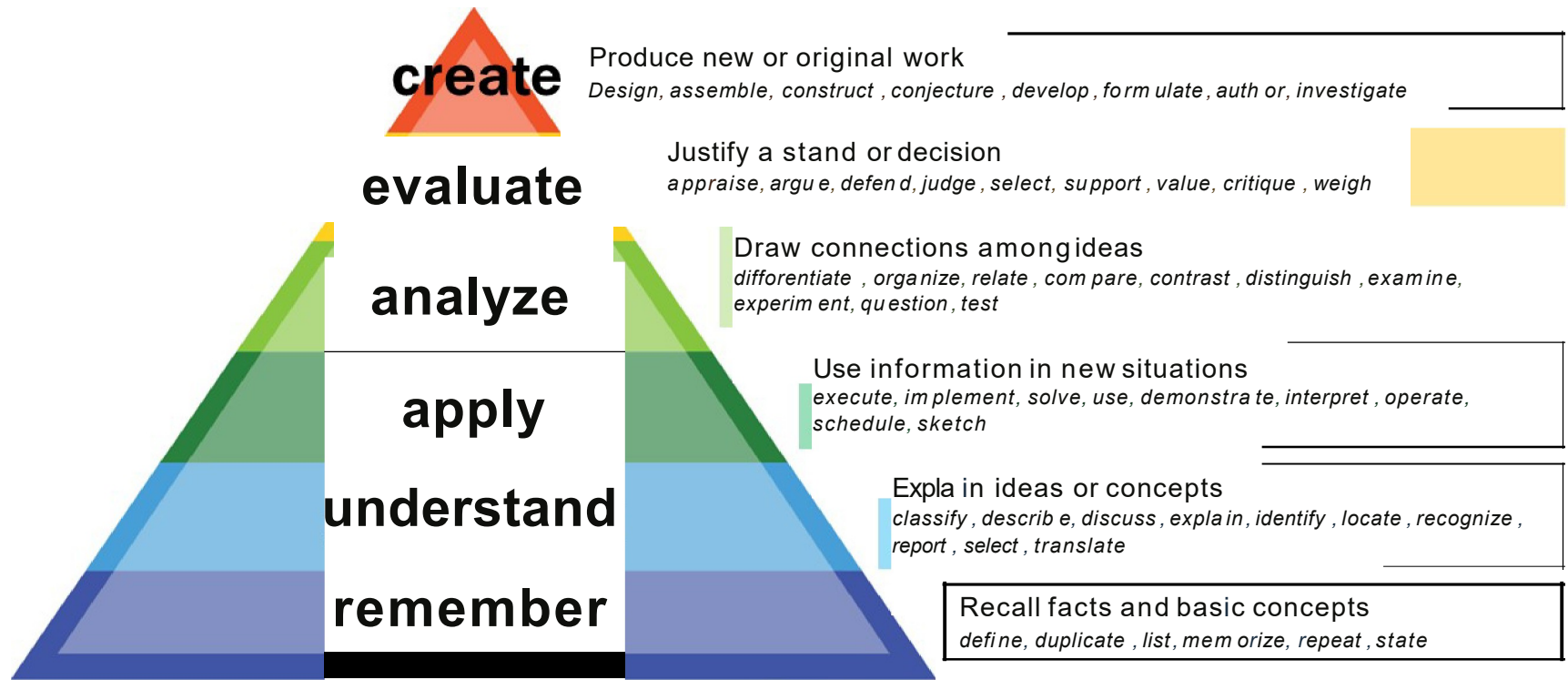
- Challenging course work preparing students for field education in preparation for a transformation into a professional social worker

# Changes to Bloom's



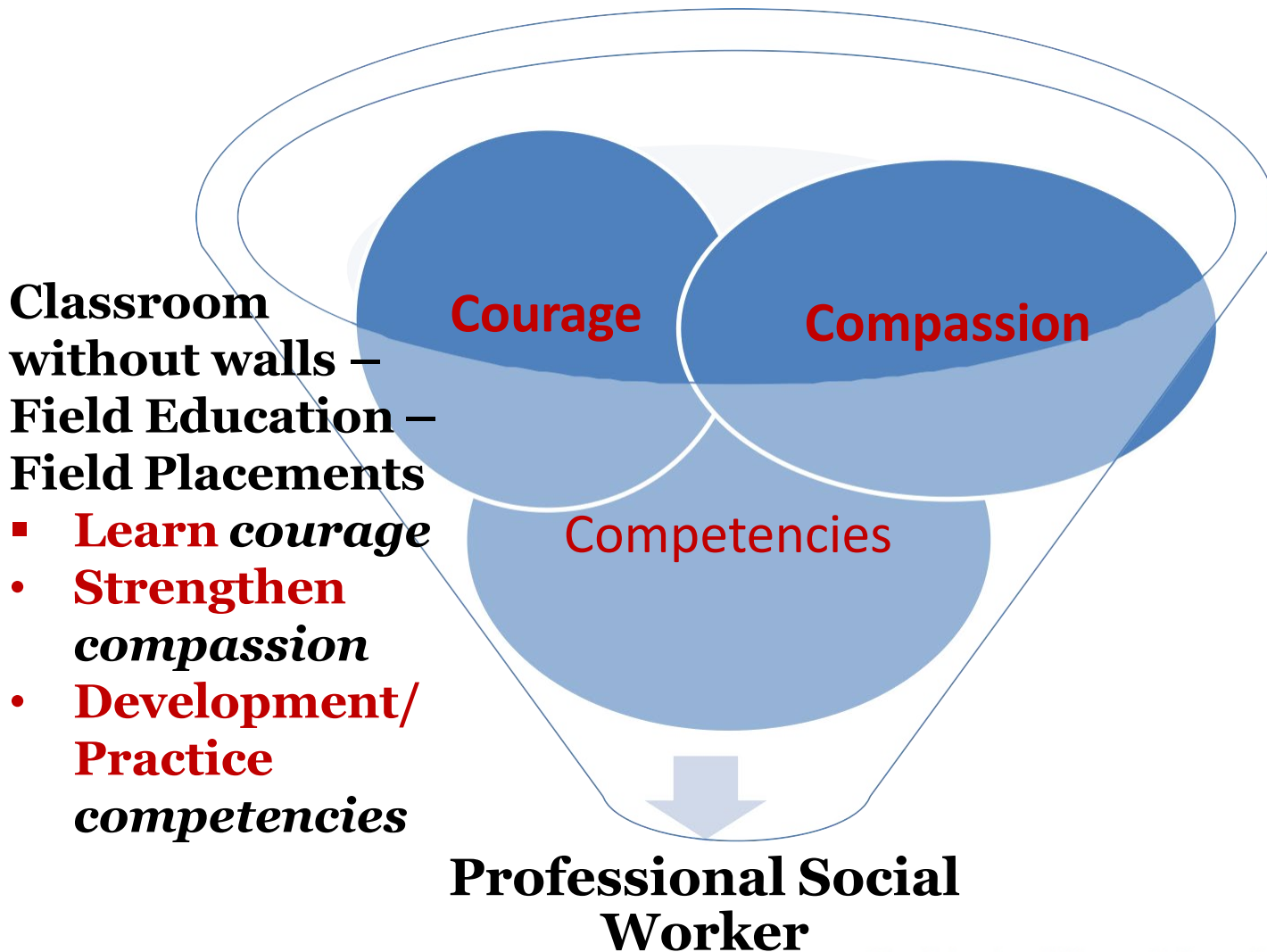


# Bloom's Taxonomy



@cirtlmooc |@

# How do we achieve our mission?



# Field Education – Signature Pedagogy for Social Work Education

Field practicum is designed *concurrently* with classroom learning to provide *experiential learning opportunities* for application of social work theories and constructs, **and** development of the student's professional sense of self.

# Field Terms

- **Field = placement, practicum, internship, or clinical**
- **Field Instructor – agency based with a degree in social work; provide social work supervision**
- **Task Supervisor- agency based may or may not have a degree in social work; provide task monitoring**
- **Field Coordinator – university –based**
- **Field Contact – university-based, faculty assigned to students at specific sites or in a program**
- **Field Faculty Liaison – university-based, experienced practitioners in the community**
- **School Director- university-based, leadership of entire School of Social Work**

# Starting Point...



# Starting Point...



Think, think, think.  
Think, think, think.

# Do you remember your beginning?

1. What was difficult for you as a new intern?
2. What worked well for you?
3. How did you feel in the beginning?



Think think think  
Think think think

# Getting started

- ✓ **Student designated work space**
- ✓ **Access to phone, computer, email, etc.**
- ✓ **Explicit agency expectations: hours, dress code, computer policies, specialized trainings, special functions**
- ✓ **Walking tour of agency and overall introductions**
- ✓ **Schedule shadow opportunities**
- ✓ **Don't underestimate the importance of an orientation**



# Getting started

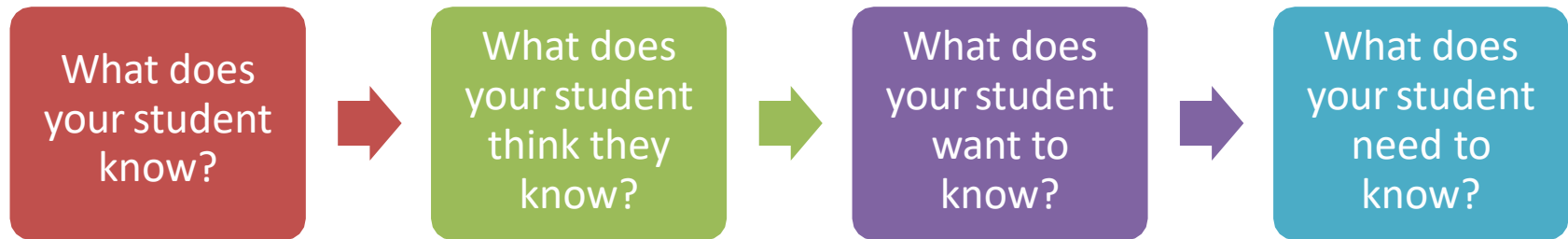
- ✓ **An approved scheduled for their 1<sup>st</sup> month with minimal deviation**
- ✓ **Materials for independent review i.e. policy & procedure manual, case records,**
- ✓ **Emergency & safety-related procedures**
- ✓ **Establish weekly meeting time for supervision**
- ✓ **Protocol when field instructor absence**

# Field Learning

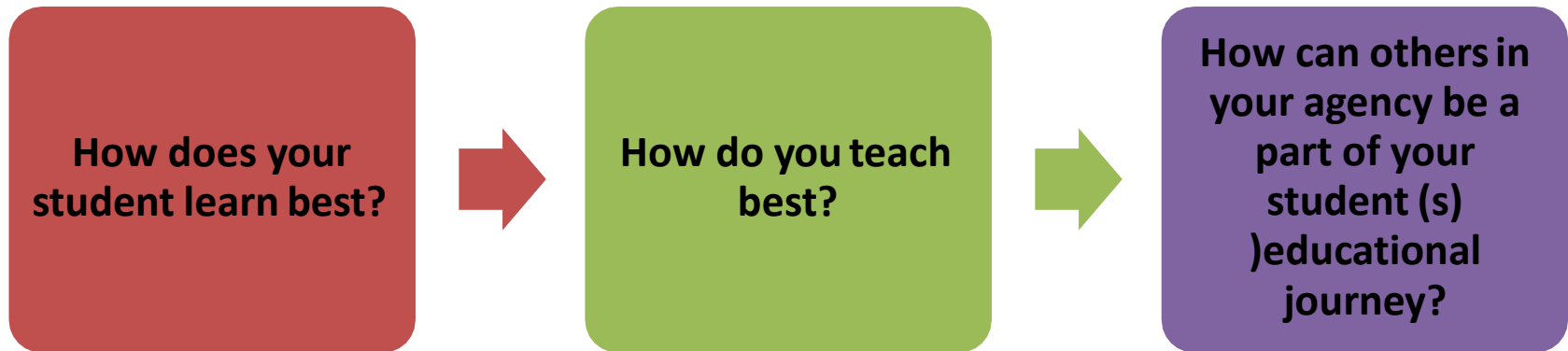


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# Assessing your student



# Assessing your student



# Describe how one hour supervision should look ...for a social work student (intern)



# Observe

- **Strengths**
- **Developmental needs**
- **Provide feedback in a timely, clear manner; explain the impact of behavior; set clear behavioral objectives that are tied to learning goals and/or professional standards and/or ethics**
- **Conduct a minimum of two (2) observable feedback sessions**

**Assess**

**Evaluate**

# Stages of the Field Instruction Process

- **Preparation, Orientation, Engagement**
- **Assessment**
- **Planning** (*developing Student Integrative Learning Contract*)
- **Implementation** (*providing field instruction*)
- **Feedback & Evaluation**
- **Termination**

**Courage. Compassion. Competence.**

**WANTED  
OUTCOME**



**Competent, ethical social worker who demonstrates knowledge & skills required to engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate practice with all client systems.**



# Literature support

**Problem-based learning,  
Instructional theories,  
Learning theories,  
Supervision**

***Check web-site***

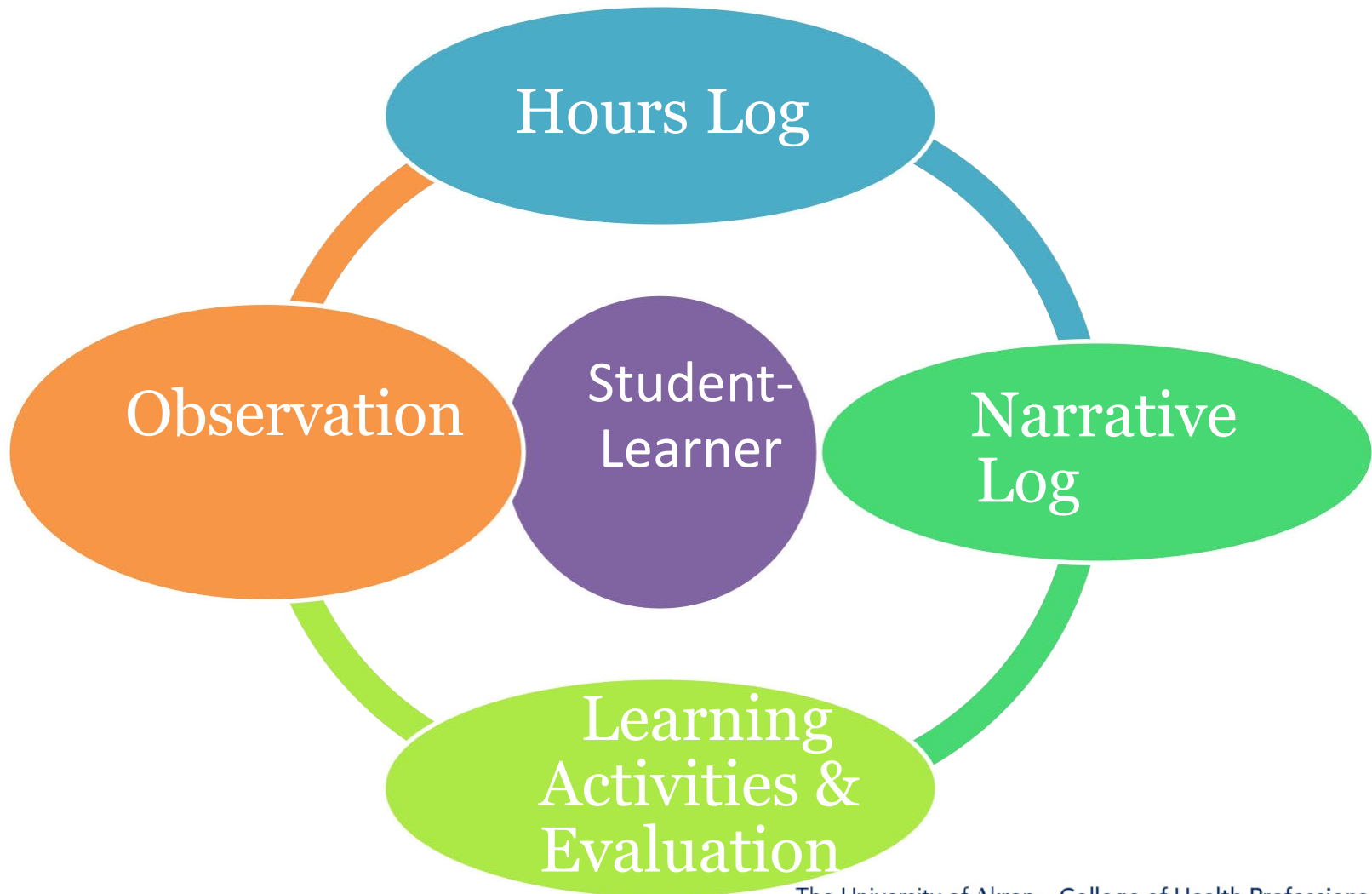


# **Field Documentation –** *Emerging professional*



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# Documentation



# Documentation matters & there is help

**GPS to Destination – Learning Activities & Evaluation tool**

**Template**

**Blank**

**Practice | Observation- Hours & Narrative Logs**

**Template**

**Blank**

**Assessment of Knowledge & Skills- Learning Activities & Evaluation tool**

**Template**

**Blank**

## **School of Social Work Website**

[www.uakron.edu/socialwork/](http://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/)

## **Field Education**

<https://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/field-education/>

## **Field Instructor**

<https://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/field-education/>

## **Social Work Student Organizations**

<https://www.uakron.edu/socialwork/student-organizations/>

**Questions – Ask  
your field contact  
person**



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