

## Introduction to Reflective Practice Journaling

**Read:** Cleak, H. and J. Wilson. 2013. *Making the Most of Field Placement*. 3rd Edition. South Melbourne, Thomson. Chapter 9 – Linking learning and practice in placement pp. 98 - 105.

**“Praxis, or the integration of theory and practice,** does not result from the simple addition of theory to practice, or vice versa. Rather, integration is experienced as a conceptual leap: a particular event can be seen as an example of a broader principle or a specific direction can be discerned from a general principle. ...the reflective process is an integral part of learning how broad ideas and specific issues might be connected: that is learning how to learn” (Cleak and Wilson, 2013: 101).

You are encouraged to use a form of **Praxis in your Reflective Journal** based on Bogo and Vayda’s ‘loop of integration of theory and practice (Cleak and Wilson, 2013: 102 - 105).

The loop has **four phases:**

1. Experiencing (Embark and Clarify/Find and Generate)
2. Reflecting (Evaluate and Reflect)
3. Analysing and Understanding (Synthesis)
4. Action Planning (Communicate and Apply Ethically; Organize and Manage)

1. **Experiencing** - in your journal explain your responses (feelings, attitudes, words, behaviours) to the experiences you have in relation to the field placement and in completing the learning activities in each phase of the field placement.



2. **Reflecting** – explore and record your feelings: acknowledge the source of your feelings; What belongs to you? What belongs to others?; link the present situation with previous experience and knowledge.



3. **Analysing and Understanding** - Examine and record your work with reference to values, ethics, research, policy and issues of power, difference and perception.



4. **Action Planning** – identify the possible pros and cons of different actions in social and community work, generate plans of actions you might take in future and identify resources you might need.

In using *praxis*, you will develop **Reflective Practice Skills** needed for continued **Professional and Lifelong Self-Learning**.

## Field Education Journal

## Parts 1, 2 and 3

---

<b>Due date Part 1:</b>	After completing Unit 1 Preparing for field placement
<b>Due date Part 2:</b>	After completing Unit 2 Beginning field placement and Unit 3 During field placement
<b>Due date Part 3:</b>	After completing Unit 3 Ending field placement
<b>Value:</b>	30%

Each part of the reflective journal is worth 10 % (3 x 10 % = 30 %). The journal must be a Word Document and be submitted in the Moodle Drop Box.

Begin the Journal in week 1.

**Instruction**

The critical reflective journal is a chronological (day, week, time) self-reflection on your experiences while completing the field placement for SW300.

- It is a record of the research and social and community work knowledge that you have learned while completing the course and the field placement.
- It will help you to integrate social and community knowledge (theory) with your professional practice.
- It will help you to gather evidence, develop, and maintain your Social and Community Work Graduate Profile that demonstrates that you attained graduate attributes and outcomes that employers and individuals, families and communities expect of social and community work professionals.

**Each journal entry should:**

- State the Unit and phase of the field placement and be chronologically (Day, Date, Time) presented
- Be grammatically and structurally correct with proper referencing
- Name, Locate and Explain Experiences
- State Personal Learning Objectives (PLO)
- Record responses to Unit Learning Activities
- Specify Field Placement Hours with Evidence
- Express feelings of what was experienced and learnt during the work in the Field Placement
- Explain links between the present situation with previous experience and knowledge
- Provide evidence of Integrating Theory and Practice
- Demonstrate how Social and Community Work Graduate Outcomes are applied to experiences.

The Marking Criteria in the Table below apply to Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Reflective Journal

<b>SW300 RSD Marking Rubric for Reflective Practice Journal</b>						
<b>Facet of Social Work Praxis and Research</b>	<b>Total Mark for Facet</b>	<b>Element of Journaling</b>	<b>No Evidence (0%)</b>	<b>Grades D and E or Fail (&lt;1 mark)</b>	<b>Grades C, C+ or B (1 to 1.49 marks )</b>	<b>Grades B+, A, A+ (1.5 to 2 marks)</b>
Organize and Manage	2	Unit and phase of the field placement Experience Chronologically (Day, Date, Unit and Phase) Presented		Not presented chronologically.	Complete but not fully presented chronologically.	Complete chronological presentation.
		Grammar, Structure and references		Poor grammar, structure and referencing.	Some grammatical, structural and referencing errors	No grammatical, structural or referencing errors.
<b>Experiencing</b>  Embark and Clarify  Find and Generate	2	Name, Locate and Explain Experiences		Experiences are not named, or not located and explanation is incomplete.	Experiences are named, located but not fully explained	All Experiences are named, located and fully explained.
		Personal Learning Objectives (PLO)		PLOs not specified or not self-generated	PLOs are specified but not fully self-generated.	PLOs are clearly specified and self-generated
		Unit Learning Activities		Hours are not documented and responses are incomplete	Hours are not fully documented and some responses are complete	Hours are fully documented and responses are all complete.
		Field Placement Hours		Hours are not fully documented.	Hours are documented with some evidence.	Hours are documented with evidence.

Facet of Social Work Praxis and Research	Grade	Element of Journaling	No Evidence (0%)	Grades D and E or Fail (<1 mark)	Grades C, C+ or B (1 to 1.49 marks)	Grades B+, A, A+ (1.5 to 2 marks)
<b><u>Reflection</u></b> Evaluate and Reflect	2	Feelings of what experienced and learnt during the work in the Field Placement		Feelings are not expressed or explored.	Feelings are expressed but lack full exploration.	Feelings are expressed and fully explored.
		Links between the present situation with previous experience and knowledge		No links are established	Some links are established	Links are fully established
<b><u>Analyze and Synthesize</u></b>	2	Evidence of Integrating Theory and Practice		Experiences are stipulated without evidence.	Experiences are stipulated with some evidence.	Experiences are fully stipulated with evidence.
<b><u>Action Planning</u></b> Communicate and Apply Ethically	2	Social and Community Work Graduate Outcomes are applied to experiences.		Experiences are articulated with little or no evidence of application.	Some experiences are articulated with evidence of application.	Experiences are fully articulated with evidence of application.

Copyright © The University of the South Pacific, 2015. Assessments designed by Social Works program coordinator Dr Donald (Bruce) Yeates and teaching staff. **Available under Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.** Reference: Willison, J. and O'Regan, K., 2006 and 2013. *The Research Skills Development Framework*.