

Robison Rojas

Swk499: Integrative Seminar

Dr. Devonne Allen

April 6. 23

Seminar Paper 10

Reflective Assessment on Competency #10

In what ways have I accomplished this competency/practice behaviors? I have accomplished this competency by understanding that everyone I encounter during my practicum, whether is a participant or a colleague, they were all uniquely made by our creator. Having this understanding allows me to treat everyone with Respect. Also, I practice this competency by reading and answering weekly reflections review based on the course text; *Compassion: A reflection on the Christian life* Nouwen, H., McNeill, D, & Morrison, D. (2006), During course SWK499: Integrative Seminar: NZ/NOS

How has my thinking changed over time? My thinking has changed by understanding that even though I won't be evangelizing or witnessing to people about my faith, I would integrate my faith by treating others gracefully and having compassion toward them. My values will be a driving force in all I do. At first, I thought that I would have to totally separate who I am as a Christian to my profession as a Social Worker.

What are the practice behaviors that indicate my competency in this area? There are a couple of practice behaviors that have helped me under how to Integrate my Christian faith with the profession of social work. First, it has to be *SWK 242/562: Social Work and Christianity* . During this course, I completed a self-assessment paper which included a spiritual history framework. While doing this assignment I was able to connect how my spirituality became the driven force for me wanting to become a Social Worker. Another Practice behavior that allowed me to better understand this competency was during *SWK499: Integrative Seminar: NZ/NOS*. During this course, I read and completed a weekly reflection paper on Compassion.

What curriculum content areas (social policy, practice, etc.) relate to successfully completing this competency? The curriculum content that helped me relate successfully to this competency was *SWK 242/562: Social Work and Christianity*. Throughout this course, I understand the historical relationship between Christianity and the social work profession. I also completed an Integrative paper that required me to discuss my understanding of how I was supposed to integrate my Christian faith with social work practice.

What learning experiences helped me to accomplish this competency? The learning experiences that allowed me to accomplish this competency was *SWK457: Field Instruction & Seminar II*. Because I am doing my practicum at a Faith-based Organization, it was easier for me to accomplish this competency. I am able to do my field experience with people who have a compassionate heart and a servanthood mindset because they share similar beliefs as Christians.

What “gaps” can I identify in my learning experience? What will I do about these “gaps”? and discuss how you plan to reach these goals. The Gaps that I have noticed in my learning experience has to be that, at times I might feel the urge to speak about God with clients, that I believe need Jesus in their life, but I understand that me as a Christian social worker should not be imposing my beliefs and values on clients or other colleagues.

Integration

What is your understanding of how Christian faith and social work can be ethically integrated? Provide examples. Being a Christian social worker means that my values will be a driving force in all I do. As a Christian social worker, I will be driven by love, compassion, and a desire to serve. I also understand that as a Christian social worker, I will view each client as a unique child of God with gifts and strengths, worthy of dignity and respect. For example, in my field practicum there are participants that no matter how hard you try and how much you care for them, they go out and continue to commit crimes. However, as a Christian, I understand that we are pulled away and entangled by sin. Without God we can't do anything right for a long period of time. This allows me to be patient with my participants and be supportive even when they fail.

Discuss any times when you have practiced social work with compassion. There was this one time that I was able to go out of my way to make sure a young man from our program was getting the service he needed. This certain individual did not have enough resources to make it back and forth to the program from his house. I asked the supervisor to allow me to make home visit trips and provide this person with transportation cards so that he would be able to commute. This was not my responsibility, I was only there to provide that person with a service when he arrived at the program, however as a Christian, I knew God called me to go the extra mile.

Discuss times when you have demonstrated humility in engaging disadvantaged persons and/or communities toward empowerment. I demonstrated humility while engaging with a disadvantaged person during a time that I took a disturbed teenager to eat outside, and the restaurant cashier made a mistake with his order, this person started cursing and made a dramatic scene while in the restaurant. This individual threw his food on the ground and was very upset. I humbly convinced him that it was ok and talked him into calming down. I explained that things in life will go wrong at times but that reactions can make the difference. He eventually calmed down and began to feel embarrassed, I understood he had an emotional behavior disorder and extended mercy towards him. I even ended up offering my food which he refused to take due to his embarrassment so I offered to order himself something else.