<u>Development of Effective Writing Skills at CSSW: Survey</u> <u>Columbia Social Work Review</u> Spring 2014

[Note: The survey was administered using Google Forms]

The Columbia Social Work Review is exploring the topic of writing in graduate-level social work. The Editorial Board of the Review provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences, and is inviting master's students to take a short survey. Your voluntary responses will contribute to a broader discussion at CSSW about the role of writing in the social work profession.

The Review created the questionnaire to explore how students experience the development of their writing skills at the graduate level. The Writing Center and the Office of Academic Affairs are facilitating the administration of the survey, which has approval from the Office of Student Services. The Review has ownership of the survey.

Please complete the survey below ONLY if you are currently a Master's level student at the School of Social Work. The survey should take approximately 6-8 minutes to complete and responses are confidential. For more information, visit http://cswr.columbia.edu or send an e-mail to cswreview@gmail.com with questions or concerns.

1	I am enrolled in				
	 O 2-year program O 16-month O Advanced standing O Extended program O Dual degree O Reduced Residency 				
2	My method is				
	O ACP O AGPP O Policy O SEA O Undecided				
3	I am a				
	O First Year O Second Year O Other				

4	Is English your first language? (optional)
	O Yes O No
5	Are you an international student (i.e., with a F1, J1, etc. visa)? (optional)
	O Yes O No
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6	When you were deciding to pursue graduate study, how important or unimportant was it to develop your writing skills?
	 Very important Somewhat Important A little important Not at all important Don't Know

7 Since you enrolled in CSSW, how often have you had to write the following (for coursework or your field placement) while a student at CSSW?

	Very Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Don't Know
Academic paper	0	0	0	0	0
Advocacy paper	0	0	0	0	0
Case study/narrative	0	0	0	0	0
Letter	0	0	0	0	0
Opinion piece	0	0	0	0	0
Process recording	0	0	0	0	0
Program and proposal development	0	0	0	0	0
Progress notes/documentation	0	0	0	0	0
Policy brief, analysis, or memo	0	0	0	0	0
Reflection piece	0	0	0	0	0

8 How would you rate the instruction that you received from your professors at CSSW for writing the following:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know	n/a
Academic paper	O	0	0	0	0	0
Advocacy paper	0	0	0	0	0	0
Case study/narrative	0	0	0	0	0	0
Letter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opinion piece	0	0	0	0	0	0
Process recording	0	0	0	0	0	0
Program and proposal development	0	0	0	0	0	0
Progress notes/documentation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy brief, analysis, or memo	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reflection piece	0	0	0	0	0	0

9 In the five years immediately after completing your studies at CSSW, how often would you expect to complete the following written tasks in your career?

					Don't
	Very Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Know
Academic paper	0	0	0	0	0
Advocacy paper	0	0	0	0	0
Case study/narrative	0	0	0	0	0
Letter	0	0	0	0	0
Opinion piece	0	0	0	0	0
Process recording	0	0	0	0	0
Program and proposal development	0	0	0	0	0
Progress notes/documentation	0	0	0	0	0
Policy brief, analysis, or memo	0	0	0	0	0
Reflection piece	0	0	0	0	0

10	Overall, how would you rate the quality of instruction received at CSSW for the writing you expect to do in the five years immediately after completing your studies at CSSW?
	O Excellent O Good O Fair O Poor
	O Don't Know
11	How would you rate the quality of feedback that you receive from instructors on your written assignments?
	O Excellent
	O Good
	O Fair
	O Poor
	O Don't Know
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12 How important or unimportant do you believe it is for graduates of CSSW to possess the following writing skills:

	Very	Somewhat	A little	Not at all	Don't
	important	important	important	important	Know
Ability to articulate a clear thesis and write persuasively	0	0	0	0	0
Ability to compile and analyze research	0	0	0	0	0
Editing or proofreading skills	0	0	0	0	0
Using professional language	0	0	0	0	0
Using sensitive language	0	0	0	0	0
Writing concisely and directly	0	0	0	0	0
Writing in APA Style	0	0	0	0	0

13 How much do you agree or disagree that CSSW's coursework and field instruction have helped you develop the following writing skills to the standards required in your intended career path?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Ability to articulate a clear thesis and write persuasively	0	0	0	0	0
Ability to compile and analyze research	0	0	0	0	0
Editing or proofreading skills	0	0	0	0	0
Using professional language	0	0	0	0	0
Using sensitive language	0	0	0	0	0
Writing concisely and directly	0	0	0	0	0
Writing in APA Style	0	0	0	0	0

14 Overall, how helpful or unhelpful do you believe the following courses have been in developing your writing skills?

				Not at		
	Very	Somewhat	A little	all	Don't	
	helpful	helpful	helpful	helpful	Know	n/a
HBSE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Social Welfare Policy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foundations of Social Work Practice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Research methods	0	0	0	0	0	0
Direct Practice II	0	0	0	0	0	0
Advocacy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Second year practice courses [e.g., 7113 (ACP), 7133 (AGPP), 7124 (Macro Community Practice), 7143 (Policy Practice)] Field of practice	0	0	0	0	0	0
course [e.g., 6910 (Health Care Sytem), 6920 (Family & Children's Services),	0	0	0	0	0	0
etc.] Other courses	0	0	0	0	0	0

15 How often have you used the following services at CSSW's Writing Center since you enrolled in CSSW?

					Don't
	Very Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Know
One-on-one appointments	0	0	0	0	0
Handouts	0	0	0	0	0
Events	0	0	0	0	0
Other Writing Center Services	0	0	0	0	0

16 If you have EVER used the Writing Center services this academic year (2013-2014), how helpful or unhelpful did you find the services you used?

	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	A little helpful	Not at all helpful	Don't Know	n/a
One-on-one appointments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Handouts Events	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Writing Center Services	0	0	0	0	0	0

17 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with CSSW's contribution to the development of your writing skills?

0	Very	Satisfied
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- O Somewhat Satisfied
- O Somewhat Dissatisfied
- O Very Dissatisfied

18 How much do you agree or disagree that CSSW should do more to help students develop their written communication skills?

- O Strongly Agree
- O Agree
- O Disagree
- O Strongly Disagree
- O Don't Know

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19 How helpful or unhelpful do you believe the following potential CSSW offerings/changes might be at helping students develop written communication skills?

	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	A little helpful	Not at all helpful	Don't Know
A required course on writing in the social	0	0	0	\circ	0
work profession	O	O	O	O	O
An optional course on	0	0		0	0
writing in the social work profession	O	O	O	O	O
More class time devoted		•	•	•	_
to developing writing skills	O	O	O	O	O
Different assignments					
that better help students develop writing skills	0	0	0	0	0
More feedback on					
assignments from	0	0	0	0	0
instructors					
20 Do you have any other suggestions for new services or offerings at CSSW that would help					
students develop their w	ritten comn	nunication skill	s?		

20	Do you have any other suggestions for new services or offerings at CSSW that would he students develop their written communication skills?
21	If you have any further comments on your experience developing writing skills at CSSW please add your comments below.
22	If you are willing to be contacted by the Columbia Social Work Paview to provide more

22 If you are willing to be contacted by the Columbia Social Work Review to provide more information about your responses, please provide your e-mail below. The Review would contact you via e-mail and arrange a 15-20 minute interview over the phone or in person. (optional)

Email:

Thank you for participating in this survey. Your answers will be helpful for the Columbia Social Work Review in developing recommendations to improve written communication skills among CSSW students. We greatly appreciate your time and effort.

If you have any questions about the survey, please e-mail <u>cswreview@gmail.com</u>. Thanks again