# Augmented Field Instructor FAQ Sheet

1. **What is an augmented field instructor?**

An augmented field instructor is someone with a master’s degree from a CSWE-accredited program and two years of post-master’s field experience who will reinforce the social work perspective during your field placement. This perspective emphasizes the values, ethics, and historical traditions of social work with a focus on and respect for diversity, practicing with cultural competence, and working with client systems (micro to macro) within the context of their environment. It is the responsibility of the field director to assign augmented field instructors to students.

1. **When and why do students require augmented field instructors?**

Students require augmented field instructors when the agency-based field instructor does not have the designated social work degree. For example, a student placed in a nursing home whose field instructor has a degree in nursing will require an augmented field instructor.

1. **What are the qualifications required of a field instructor?**

Undergraduate field instructors must possess a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program **or** a bachelor’s or a master’s degree in a related field. If the field instructor does not possess a bachelor’s or master’s degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program, an augmented field instructor will be assigned.

Master’s level field instructors must possess a minimum of a master’s degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program **or** possess a master’s degree in a related field **or** possess a bachelor’s degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program or a related field with extensive social service practice experience. If the field instructor does not possess a master’s degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program, an augmented field instructor will be assigned.

According to Ohio Administrative Code 4757-19-05 (H), Social Work Trainees must “Be supervised at a field placement by a licensed social worker with a master's degree in social work, a licensed independent social worker or a licensed independent social worker with a supervision designation. Only a licensed independent social worker with a supervision designation may provide the supervision to a social worker trainee who is engaged in the practice of social psychotherapy, which includes the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders.”

1. **What are the responsibilities of an augmented field instructor?**

The augmented field instruction activities will include the following:

* Participation in the scheduled field instruction orientation and training
* Input into the learning plan
* Attendance and participation in field liaison visits when appropriate
* An individual meeting with the student at least once per semester (and more frequently, if requested) to discuss the social work perspective and its application
* Opportunity for input into the end-of-the-semester written evaluation.

**My augmented field instructor is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

References: Council on Social Work Education. (2015). *2015 educational policy and accreditation standards.* Retrieved from <https://www.cswe.org/Accreditation/Standards-and-Policies/2015-EPAS>