Part-time students have unique challenges that impact their ability to meet program requirements like field. Early planning for family and employment commitments is necessary to ensure success in the MSW program. Below is important information about Field Instruction that has proven helpful to part-time students.

**Field Requirements**
Field education is a major part of the MSW curriculum and is required for completion of the program. Students will complete up to 1000 hours of field for both field practica. Students are in field for two full days per week. Field days are typically Mondays and Tuesdays for the 1st field placement and Thursdays and Fridays for the 2nd field placement. This continuity in scheduling is important for student learning, agency operations and consistency of client care. The field schedule also coincides with the class schedule each semester. Field occurs in the 2nd and fourth years of study. The Field Office is responsible for assigning all 1st field placements. It is important to note that the vast majority of field sites DO NOT offer quality and consistent educational opportunities during evenings and weekends. Because appropriate social work supervision is required during field days, requests for evening and weekend hours are usually not approved. Students working full-time are strongly encouraged to discuss with their employer the program requirements and options for being available for field during the week.

**1st Field Goals**
The primary educational objective for the 1st field assignment is to expose students to a broad range of social work practice within a generalist framework. To meet this objective, students are usually placed at agencies that provide a new learning experience that is different from their past work or volunteer experience. Feedback received from graduates indicates that exposure to differential learning opportunities in field has been very applicable to their professional growth.

**2nd Field Goals**
In planning for the 2nd Field placement, students have more autonomy in researching and arranging their placements. There is a comprehensive database of field sites that is accessible through the Field Education Office. Students can search for agencies that provide learning opportunities for either clinical or macro practice, based on their chosen concentration. Students hone learned skills from the 1st field placement and apply to advanced concentrations in their chosen fields of study.

**Resources**
The Field Education Office provides a field calendar. The Field Education website and orientation sessions are available to help students with the field placement process. The Field Office also schedules career workshops throughout the year. Field liaisons are assigned each year. Field liaisons provide a variety of supportive services designed to create cohesive working relationships between students and their field instructors. Students in their first field placements will also participate in a field seminar and a practice skills lab. Attendance to field seminars and the completion of assignments are factored into the Field Instruction grade for RSSW 650 and 651.