



# Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR) and BSW Practicum

## Application Deadlines

Students who submit PLAR applications for SW 348 by the 15th of the first month of every term can expect a response by the end of that term.

Application deadlines are:

- Fall: September 15 (response by December 31)
- Winter: January 15 (response by April 30)
- Spring/Summer: May 15 (response by August 30)

## Additional Support

Assistance with your PLAR application is available through the URegina Centre for Continuing Education (CCE). Students are strongly encouraged to contact CCE for guidance and support as early in the process as possible.

Email:

[www.uregina.ca/cce/student-services/contact-us/plar-contact.html](http://www.uregina.ca/cce/student-services/contact-us/plar-contact.html)

Webpage:

[www.uregina.ca/cce](http://www.uregina.ca/cce)

(look under Student Services > Credit Students > Credit for Prior Learning)

## Credit will not be awarded for experience alone.

Learning does not always take place in the classroom: it also happens on the job, at home, and in the community. The recognition of prior learning is a process that takes into consideration *all* learning by examining what a person knows and can do and – most importantly – their ability to critically reflect on knowledge gained through experience and integrate theory and practice.

## Eligibility for Prior Learning Assessment

Practicum II (470 field hours) cannot be considered for prior learning credit due to requirements within the CASWE *Standards for Accreditation* (2014). CASWE standards require students to complete a minimum of 700 field hours at the BSW level, and prior learning credit may be granted for a maximum of fifty percent of the required field hours. All other undergraduate social work courses are eligible to be challenged for PLAR credit, including SW 348 – Practicum I.

Students applying for credit for SW 348 - Practicum I, must meet the following criteria:

- have a minimum of 2 years of full-time waged or unwaged human service experience (approximately 4000 hours), which has been completed in the past 10 years
- have successfully completed the prerequisites for the course (currently SW 390, SW 346, and SW 100, 6 additional SW credit hours, plus a minimum grade point average of 70% in the Social Work portion of their BSW) *prior to credit being granted*
- contact their Practicum Placement Coordinator *prior to the relevant practicum application deadline* to discuss their intent to apply for PLAR credit
- clearly demonstrate in their PLAR application how they have met the objectives and competencies for SW 348

Information about preparing your application is available in the *SW 348 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Student Guide*, which is available to download from the PLAR website (link in column on the left) or the BSW practicum website (link at bottom of page).

## PLAR Information Sessions

A PLAR Information Session is your best resource to learn about PLAR eligibility criteria, application requirements, and assessment processes. Details about these sessions will be provided at the Practicum Information Sessions each term.