FIELD EDUCATION DOCUMENT 1:

FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN SEEKING A PLACEMENT

1. Learning Opportunities
   • What does the agency offer as learning opportunities and tasks?
   • What is the agency interested in?
   • Why are they interested in having student(s)

2. Methods of Learning
   • Who would be involved in the supervision?
   • What times are offered for orientation / supervision?
   • How would my performance be evaluated? (Including specific tasks to be evaluated)
   • What are the expectations regarding the use of a contract / learning agreement?

3. The Agency
   • What is the philosophy / general value orientation of the agency?
   • How does this relate to my values
   • How does this affect the users of the agency?

4. Practical organisational arrangements
   • What hours does the agency operate?
   • What are the expectations re: working hours, attendance, after hours work, time in lieu etc?
   • Does the agency have particular policies about dress and presentation?
   • What facilities / resources are available at this agency (room, desk, telephone, computer etc.)?
   • Are transport costs reimbursed or is a car available for relevant duties?

WHAT THE FIELD EDUCATOR IS LIKELY TO ADDRESS

• Purpose of pre-placement interview
• ‘So you want to come here for field placement’ - Why? Purpose, facts, feelings.
• Past work experiences
• Perceptions of field placement
• Goals
• Description of the field placement setting
• Supervision provided and the agency's approach to field education
• What the student feels they want or need from placement experience and from the field educator
• Student's personal situation

THUS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL THE FIELD EDUCATOR

• Why you are potentially interested in the placement
• The practicalities of placements according to the information you are given from RMIT
• The educational needs you hope to develop during placement
• The personal strengths and skills you could bring to the placement.