Sample Assignments

Sample assignments for students

❑ Using the resources on VotingisSocialWork.org, look up the rules and deadlines around voting in your state, including:
- ❑ Rules and deadlines for voter registration
- ❑ Policies that apply to voters with special circumstances, including who can vote with a felony conviction
- ❑ Voting options in your state

❑ Find nonpartisan information on the candidates running for state or local office. Is information easy to find?

❑ Develop your own social media plan to share voting resources and information for you or your organization.

❑ Using the worksheet on the votingissocialwork.org website, look up who represents you at every level of government. Create a contact sheet with email addresses and phone numbers for easy access.

❑ Look up voter turnout statistics for local and state elections for your town.

❑ What was turnout in presidential, and even years? What about local elections? What was the overall turnout rate for your town in each of the elections? What does that tell you about political power in the state ?

❑ Using the NASW's Code of Ethics and article The Role of Clinical Social Workers on Voter Engagement Efforts, discuss how nonpartisan voter engagement connects to the mission, services and impact of your practicum agency.

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Sample assignments cont.

❑ Use the Voter Engagement Guide for Nonprofits on Votingissocialwork.org to develop a plan to integrate nonpartisan voter engagement activities into the services and culture of your nonprofit, agency, organization, or school. Plan should recommend ways the organization can:

- Help individuals register to vote;
- Share information on where/when/how to vote;
- Share information about voting with special circumstances (e.g., individuals with a felony record, survivors of violence, persons experiencing homelessness, long-term care residents, etc.);
- Support informed voting by sharing information on candidates, elected officials and government;
- Remind people to vote in all elections and why their vote matters.

❑ Organize a voter registration event on campus using the resources on Votingissocialwork.org

❑ Register at least three people to vote. *Note: You are not required to register people at your agency. You may choose any three people to register, including people in your personal network. Find resources, including the Power of Three, on VotingissocialWork.org*

❑ Write and submit a short reflection about your experience registering or engaging people to vote that answers the following questions:

- Who did you choose to register and why? What was their reaction?
- What platform or process did you use? How did you feel about the experience and the tool you chose? Did you feel comfortable?
- Do you think voting is important to social work practice and impact? Should all agencies be required to help people to vote?
- How does voting connect with social justice movements?
- How would you address someone who says "My vote doesn't matter?"

Incorporating Voter Engagement into Field Education: Example Practice Activities

The Nine Competencies:

C1: Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior

C2: Engage diversity and difference in practice

C3: Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice

C4: Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice

C5: Engage in policy practice

C6: Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

C7: Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

C8: Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

C9: Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

Example Practice Activity	Alignment with core competencies								
	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9
Research allowable nonpartisan voter activities and lobbying rules for 501(c)(3) organizations and/or requirements for nonprofits in the 1993 National Voter Registration Act.	✓		✓		✓				
Discuss ethical implications of not supporting the political power and voice of clients and communities through voting and civic participation.	✓	✓	✓						
Share information on voting, elections, and basic civics with clients, staff and/or communities	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Integrate voter registration and	✓	✓	✓			✓			

Tie Voter Engagement Activities To All 9 CSWE Core Competencies

- Include in educational contracts for micro and macro
- Give field credit for running voter engagement activities on campus