

### Appendix 3a: Glossary on Implicit and Explicit Curriculum

- *The Explicit Curriculum* consists of the formal educational structure of the Department or Program. This includes the Guidelines for the Major or Minor and the courses in a program or major.
- *The Implicit Curriculum* refers to the educational learning environment in which the explicit curriculum is presented. The implicit curriculum is evidenced through fair and transparent substance and implementation, the qualifications of the faculty, and the adequacy of resources. Attention to the importance of the implicit curriculum promotes an educational culture that is congruent with the values of the college and the programs/departments.

Departments/Programs should identify implicit curriculum areas that are germane for academic success of the students in the major/minor or program. Suggested elements of the implicit curriculum could include, but are not limited to those listed below:

- Advisement
- Retention
- Termination policies from the major
- Student participation in governance
- Faculty
- Administrative structure
- Resources
- Department/Program commitment to diversity
- Partnerships with Disability Services, CAAS, etc.
- Library

Council on Social Work Education (2008). *Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards*. Alexandria, VA: CSWE.

Eisner, E. W. (2002). *The educational imagination: On the design and evaluation of school programs* (3rd ed.). New York: Macmillan.