

Kristi Law, '13

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“The decision to come back to school to work towards my PhD in Social Work was not an easy one, and from the very beginning the faculty and staff at the University of Iowa School of Social Work (SSW) demonstrated patience and kindness, along with academic integrity. **As a Ph.D. student interested in macro social work, I was able to gain the experiences I knew I needed to be competitive in tenure track positions at institutions focused on teaching.** The teaching practicum was a highlight for my professional growth as a social work educator along with several excellent faculty members who were always willing to discuss teaching philosophies and strategies for effective instruction. The multidisciplinary structure of the curriculum encouraged me to seek out and secure graduate assistantships across campus. Those positions eventually connected me to the sample I worked with to complete my dissertation research AND have extended to the state where I currently reside. As I begin my fourth year as an assistant professor of social work on the tenure track, I can point specifically to the influence, preparation, and support of the SSW, and I will be forever grateful!