MPH PRACTICUM OVERVIEW FOR STUDENTS
2015-2016

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OVERVIEW

• Outline of the updated MPH Practicum Course
• Changes effective in the 2015-2016 Academic Year
• Students who started their practicum in the Spring/Summer 2015 semester are exempt from all new course requirements—> 2014/2015 Course requirements apply
  • Special practicum presentation will be held for these students following the 2014/2015 format
PRACTICUM SITES & PRECEPTORS

Sites

• Have a public health mission (or department/section with such a mission)
• Address significant public health problems
• Offer students the opportunity to engage with experienced Site Preceptors
• Local, state, federal, or international agencies or organizations—> Prefer SE MI

Preceptors

• Are employees of the host organization
• Have at least 5 years of public health professional experience
• May have a terminal degree in public health or a closely related field
  • When they do not, more years of experience are expected
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Conducted in a public health setting
- Under the supervision of an experienced public health professional
- Required of all MPH students
  - Tailored to program-specific competencies
    - PHP
    - Biostatistics
- All placements must meet minimum standards (established by CEPH)
  - Planned
  - Supervised
  - Evaluated
- A minimum of 135 hours
  - All hours should be completed on site
EXAMPLES OF PRACTICUM ACTIVITIES

- Policy analysis
- Data analysis
- Design of study instruments
- Study design
- Grant application preparation
- Needs assessment
- Program planning, implementation or evaluation
- Risk assessment
- Surveillance
- Health education
- Health promotion
- AND MORE….
STEP 1: SELECTION & REGISTRATION

• Begin this process AT LEAST 1 semester prior to course registration
• Students meet with Academic Advisor-> MPH faculty -> Practicum Director
• Students meet with potential Site Preceptor
• Complete all pre-requisites
• Register for Course

*Practicum Approval Form*
STEP 2: DEVELOP THE LEARNING CONTRACT

• Establishes the expectations, deliverables and timeline before the start of the Practicum.
• Developed with Site Preceptor & approved by Practicum Director
• Learning Contract includes:
  • Scope of Work
    • Learning objectives
    • Activities
    • Deliverables
    • Competencies
    • Timeline

*Learning Contract & Scope of Work Form*
STEP 3: MIDPOINT REVIEW

- Completed half-way through the practicum
- Site Preceptor
- Update and adjust the Scope of Work (if necessary)

*Midpoint Review Form*
STEP 4: FINAL DELIVERABLES

**PHP Concentration**

- **Executive Summary**
  - Write a logical and clear summary of your practicum experience
  - written in non-technical language and should briefly summarize your experience
  - no more than 2 pages
  - the MOST relevant information from the Site Preceptors perspective
  - Required elements

**Biostatistics Concentration**

- **Data Summary Report**
  - Written to target a broad public health audience AND a lay audience without advanced statistical expertise.
  - as simple as possible, including easy-to-understand tables, graphs and charts, and a summary of the results
  - Required elements
### Abstract
- Abstract (250 words or less) using the Practicum Abstract Form
- Publish all abstracts in the *Practicum Showcase Book* & online

### Poster
- Develop a poster
  - Standard format
- Presented at Showcase
- 3 times per year
- Prize for best poster as voted on by faculty
## STEP 5: EVALUATIONS

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<th>Site Preceptor</th>
<th>Practicum Director</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<td>Evaluations</td>
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PERFORMANCE RATING SCALE

- Score 5: Exceptional
- Score 4: Exceeds Expectations
- Score 3: Meets Expectations
- Score 2: Improvement Needed
- Score 1: Unsatisfactory
ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

• Pass/Fail
  • Completion of a minimum of 135 contact hours
  • Completion of all deliverables, including: Learning Contract, Midpoint Review, Summary Report, Abstract, Poster Presentation, and Evaluations
  • Achieving an Overall Performance Score of 3 or above on the Site Preceptor Evaluation;
  • Achieving a score of 3 or above on the Executive Summary/Data Report score from the Practicum Director Evaluation;
  • Achieving a Practicum Poster score of 3 or above on the Practicum Director Evaluation, and;
  • Participation in a close out meeting with the Practicum Director
PRACTICUM COMPLETION!!!

Questions, Comments, Suggestions???

Contact Dr. Dana Rice, Practicum Director at dric@med.wayne.edu or 313.283.3648