

Health  
Sciences

4900E



# HEALTH PRACTICUM

Course Coordinator: Daniel Belliveau, Ph.D.

School of Health Studies  
Faculty of Health Sciences

Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology  
Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry

2010

## **HS 4900E**

### **HEALTH PRACTICUM**

*The prerequisite for this course includes enrolment in a Honors Specialization Module and permission of the School of Health Studies to enrol in this course. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.*

*September 2010 to April 2011*

### **COURSE OBJECTIVE**

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In this course, you will create and participate in a practicum in the areas of aging and independence, bioethics, health promotion in rural and urban areas, or other areas as appropriate. The practicum is developed together with the student, an on-site coordinator who provides direct supervision, and the practicum coordinator. As described below, your grade in this course is based on three components: creation of a learning contract, supervisor evaluation of your performance in the practicum, and a practicum paper.

#### **Practicum Hours**

Practicum hours are coordinated with the practicum site.

#### **Course Antirequisites**

Health Sciences 4910A/B, the former Health Sciences 409E or 419a/b are antirequisites of this course.

#### **Course Materials**

There is no textbook for the course. In preparing your practicum paper, you are responsible for developing an appropriate set of background readings.

### **COURSE ADMINISTRATION**

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#### **COORDINATOR**

Dr. Dan Belliveau  
Health Sciences Building, room 218  
Ext. 88235

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Thursday 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM OR by appointment

Due to the nature of research, there are times when unforeseen circumstances may prevent me from being present during scheduled office hours. I am always interested in hearing from students so feel free to contact me with some potential meetings times and I will respond with a mutually suitable date and time.

### **COURSE CONTACT**

**Course E-mail address:** use the web site mail for course related questions. Anything of a sensitive nature may be addressed to the instructor's personal e-mail ([dbellive@uwo.ca](mailto:dbellive@uwo.ca)). Responses to inquiries via the web site email are sent to a mailbox on the web site and NOT to your personal account. Some external email services may encounter SPAM blocking or filtering. Important and timely information may not get to you if you are using another email service.

**Web site address:**

The student is responsible for submitting a *learning contract* that indicates the learning goals and objectives for the practicum. The learning contract is developed in consultation with the practicum supervisor. In this course, the learning contract consists of the four components listed below:

1. *Learning objectives*, or goals, for your practicum experience.
2. *Learning resources* (e.g., activities, readings) that will be used to achieve the objectives.
3. An *action plan* that outlines what strategies you will use to accomplish the learning objectives.
4. *Evaluation* of the learning achieved. In the case of this course, the evaluation component is determined by the School of Health Studies (See Evaluation section above).

### **The Practicum Paper**

The practicum paper should be approximately 4,500 words in length ( $\pm 10\%$ ), double spaced, and printed using a font size no smaller than 12 points. Students are encouraged to use subheadings to identify the main sections of the paper. The paper should adhere to APA (5th Edition) style.

The practicum paper should include the following main sections:

- a. Introduction
  - Describe the Learning Objectives you identified in your Learning Contract.
- b. Background Literature
  - Review the scholarly literature relevant to your Learning Objectives.
- c. Practicum Experience
  - Discuss what you have learned from your practicum experience. In particular, assess the extent to which the background literature is reflected in your practicum experience?
- d. Conclusion
  - Conclude your paper by summarizing, in general terms, what you have learned as a Consequence of your practicum.
- e. References
  - The journal articles and other resources which you cite in your paper should be listed in APA format.

### *Evaluation Criteria for Practicum Paper*

- a. Conceptualization
  - The degree to which the paper demonstrates a thorough understanding of relevant issues and concepts.
- b. Originality
  - The degree to which the paper reflects freshness of thought, provides insightful comment, or offers a novel perspective.
- c. Integration
  - The degree to which the focal aspects of the practicum experience are compared and contrasted with key ideas in the background literature.
- d. Quality of Writing
  - The degree to which the paper is free of spelling errors, typographical errors, grammatical

**Student**

- Develop a learning contract in consu

**Documentation from Hospital Urgent Care Centres or Emergency Departments:** Students should request that an SMC\* be filled out. Students may bring this form with them, or request alternative Emergency Department documentation. Documentation should be secured at the time of the initial visit to the Emergency Department. Where it is not possible for a student to have an SMC\* completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that his/her ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities was seriously affected.

\*To print or see an example of the Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) please visit <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and click on 'Student Medical Certificate.pdf'.

## **PLAGIARISM**

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Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations.

### **CHEATING**

The University of Western Ontario uses cheating analysis software to assess the validity of examinations written by students. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. It is the onus of individual students to protect their written work and examination documents.

### **PLAGIARISM CHECKING**

The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.