### HS 4900E

### HEALTH PRACTICUM

#### 2017 A 2018

# COURSE OBJECTIVE

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 multiple components: creation of a learning contract, development of a practicum poster, supervisor evaluation of your performance in the practicum, and a practicum paper.

#### Practicum Hours

Practicum hours are coordinated by the practicum supervisor as required by the organization. On average, 6-8 hours per week are expected although this may vary substantially from week to week.

Course Antirequisites: Health Sciences 4910F/G.

#### Course Materials

There is no textbook for the course. In preparing your practicum paper, you are expected to develop an appropriate set of background readings that should typically go beyond that provided by the practicum supervisor.

### COURSE ADMINISTRATION

COURSE COORDINATOR Dr. Andrew Johnson Health Sciences Building, room 330 ajohnson@uwo.ca

#### COURSE SEMINAR HOUR

Experiential learning courses in the School of Health Studies share a one-hour seminar scheduled for:

Thursdays 4:30-5:20 PM in HSB 9

This seminar begins on September 14th, 2017. There may not be a seminar scheduled for each week, but you are encouraged to attend and participate in all scheduled sessions. Details regarding the seminar dates and topics may be found at <u>owl.uwo.ca</u>. This is your opportunity to ask questions about course requirements, or raise particular concerns or issues that you may have that are specific to your project.

#### COURSE CONTACT

<u>Course E-mail address</u>: use the web site mail for course related questions. Anything of a sensitive nature may be addressed to the instructor's personal e-mail (<u>ajohnson@uwo.ca</u>). Please use your UWO email account for course-related communication. 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.

<u>Web site address</u>: <u>https://owl.uwo.ca/portal</u> Log onto OWL using your user name and password. You <u>must</u> be registered in this course to have access to the site and you <u>must</u> have an account established with UWO. *All course-related materials are delivered through OWL and all assignments are submitted through OWL*.

## EVALUATIONS

Your grade in this course is based on creation of learning contract, a practicum poster, supervisor evaluation of your performance in the practicum, and a practicum paper. The learning contract is worth 15%, the practicum poster 20%, supervisor evaluation of your practicum performance is worth 25%, and the practicum paper is worth 40% of your final grade in the course.

<u>GRADING:</u>	Learning Contract Thursday October 19 <sup>th</sup> 2017 12:00 noon via OWL	15%	The student is responsible for submitting a learning contract to the course coordinator that indicates the learning goals and objectives for the practicum created in consultation with the supervisor.
	Practicum Poster Thursday March 1 <sup>st</sup> 2018 12:00 noon via OWL	10%	Students will submit an e-poster suitable for presentation at a T 50.242 588 (c) 1 (t) 3 (i)3 (ve) 1 (s) 1 ( ) 3 (f) 2 (or) 1 (t)og2 (or

### Late Policy

All assignments are due on the date and at the time indicated. Late assignments are penalized at 1% for each full hour after the deadline date. No assignments are accepted that are more than four days late.

#### The Learning Contract

The student is responsible for submitting a 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 following components:

1. , or goals, for your practicum experience. ? This should be aligned with your Health Science experiences based upon the program's curriculum and courses you have tak(urri) 0

Most posters include the following components although there may be some projects where a different approach would be appropriate. This can be discussed with the course coordinator. The basic elements of a poster include:

- Title: project title
- Authors: you, your supervisor, other collaborators (and in each case their institutional/organizational affiliation)
- Purpose: objective, research question, background
- Methodology
- Findings or results
- Discussion
- Conclusion/summary, potential future work/directions
- Acknowledgements: source of funding if appropriate, other supports outside of your immediate supervisor/organizational support

The course coordinator, course TA and peers will evaluate the poster. You will present your practicum poster to an audience of your peers. The practicum poster presentations will be 10 minutes in duration; 7 minutes to present and 3 minutes for questions. These times will be firmly monitored.

Both components (poster and presentation) will look for:

- Is the question or problem clear?
- Does the question/problem matter?
- Understanding is clear of what the author of the poster did (e.g. design and methodology)
- Results of the study/project are clear
- Was there an identified "take away" message?
- Poster design appropriate for the work and message

### The Practicum Paper

The practicum paper should be approximately 4,000 words in length ( $\pm$  10%), not including references and title page, 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 (6<sup>th</sup> Edition; <u>http://www.apastyle.org/index.aspx</u>) style.

The practicum paper should include the following main sections:

- a. Introduction
  - Using the learning objectives identified in your learning contract, describe the primary issues that the practicum experience addressed
- b. Background Literature
  - Review the scholarly literature relevant to your project, as identified by the learning objectives.
- c. Findings/results
  - An opportunity to describe what was accomplished during the practicum, any observations or advancements made in the field
- d. Discussion
  - An opportunity to place your practicum experience and findings in the context of the field of study and comment upon any impact upon current practice
- e. Conclusion
  - Conclude the paper by su

practicum has had or will have on the specific population

- f. References
  - The journal articles and other resources which you cite in your paper should be listed in APA format.
- g. Practicum Experience (this is a separate component and need not be integrated into the practicum paper described above)
  - Discuss what you have learned from your practicum experience. In particular, assess the extent to which the experience is reflected in your growth as a Health Science student.
  - This is a personal reflection of your experience and not necessarily linked to the body of the paper. This section should comprise no more than 500 words of the total word count of the paper and will be the last section of the paper.

- Provide feedback to the practicum coordinator on the student's performance during the practicum. The coordinator will contact the practicum supervisor toward the end of the practicum to obtain this feedback.
- Support the student during their experiential learning

Course Coordinator, School of Health Studies

- Establish contact with Community Partner and assist with arrangements for the practicum, including establishment of an affiliation agreement with the University of Western Ontario, where necessary.
- Maintain ongoing contact and act as a resource for the student and the Community Partner during the practicum.
- Evaluate the learning contract, poster and practicum paper. Evaluate the student's practicum performance based on feedback from the practicum supervisor

# UNIVERSITY POLICIES