MPH Practicum Overview
2017-18
Juliann Binienda, Phd
Overview

- Practicum defined
- Outline of the updated MPH Practicum Course
- Use of Blackboard
What is the Practicum?

As a requirement established by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH),

All professional degree students must develop skills in basic public health concepts and demonstrate the application of these concepts through a practice experience that is relevant to the students’ areas of specialization.

(CEPH, School of Public Health Accreditation Criteria, Amended June 2016)
Practicum Goal

- provide an opportunity for you to synthesize, integrate, and apply practical skills, knowledge, and training learned through courses, to gain professional experience in a public health work environment,
- and to work on public health practice projects that are of particular interest to you.
What isn’t the practicum?

It’s not:

- An extension of your current place of employment
- Research
- Paid
- Structured like a regular class
- Provided for you
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

▶ 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....
Blackboard

- All practicum forms are “assignments”
- Upload with name and number of form as indicated
- You will be given points for each “assignment”
- Peruse current offerings
- EVERYTHING gets uploaded to blackboard
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
  - FPH 7240 Epidemiology I (3 credits)
  - FPH 7015 Biostatistics I (4 credits)
  - FPH 7100 Health Care Administration and Organization (3 credits)
  - FPH 7320 Social Basis of Health Care (3 credits)
- FPH 7230 Health Program Evaluation is strongly suggested
- CITI training, TB form and CV/resume
- Register for Course through practicum director

*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: Final Deliverables

- PHP Concentration
- **Executive Summary**
  - Write a logical and clear summary of your practicum experience
  - written in non-technical language and should BREIFLY summarize your experience
  - no more than 2 pages
  - the MOST relevant information from the Site Preceptors perspective
- Required elements
Step 4: Deliverables cont.

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
- Deliver a 3-minute “elevator speech” about your practicum
- 3 times per year

Next practicum showcase is Wednesday, August 2nd, 2017 3-5 PM in the 2nd floor conference room.
Step 5: Evaluations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Preceptor</th>
<th>Practicum Director</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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;
- Documented attendance at two Professional Development Activities, and;
- Participation in a close out meeting with the Practicum Director
Practicum Showcase

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

3-5 pm
MPH offices
2nd floor Conference Room
Practicum Tips!

- At least two weeks before Showcase, submit your poster, abstract and executive summary
- Have examples of all of these on blackboard
- Finish the practicum in the same semester
- May want to extend the experience by completing MPH project at same site.
- Once drafts of executive summary and abstract have been submitted, you can register for the MPH project course.
Practicum Completion!!!

Questions, Comments, Suggestions???

Contact
Dr. Binienda at
MPHpracticum@med.wayne.edu