Description: Practicum 1

Subject | Cat-nbr | Class | Term | Mode | Units | Campus
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PSY | 8130 | 62348 | 1, 2007 | ONC | 1.00 | Toowoomba

Academic group: FOSCI
Academic org: FOS005
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 090701

STAFFING
Examiner: Paul Bramston
Moderator: Des Coates

REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: PSY8010

RATIONALE
To become fully aware of the role of the professional psychologist, students need to work within a general psychological practice setting. The practicum requires the student to face some of the broader issues that the practising psychologist typically has to deal with in integrating academic learning with professional application. Students will learn about the function of the discipline of psychology in that setting; the role of other disciplines or professions, and the professional etiquette and ethics involved.

SYNOPSIS
The first Practicum is designed to provide students with a structured situation in a clinical/counselling agency in which appropriate psychological skills can be developed to high levels of competency. It gives the student the opportunity to examine applied problems from a theoretical perspective and to then apply theoretically derived interventions. It promotes a scientist-practitioner model of the professional psychologist. Students will be encouraged to approach applied problems and skill based learning from a hypotheses based assessment perspective. The emphasis is on skill development in a supervised, structured environment. Expert feedback on performance is seen as an essential feature of the learning process and strong emphasis is placed on skill development under adequate supervision.

OBJECTIVES
At the end of the practicum, students will be able to demonstrate many competencies identified in the APS Competencies for Psychologists (1996): Framing, measuring and solving problems, service implementation, professional legal and ethical approach, communication and professional
and community relations in a clinical/counselling context. Actual content of the Practicum will include skills as identified in the respective Health College Competency document. Specifically students will be able to:

1. conduct a preliminary intake interview with people from varied cultural backgrounds (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation);
2. formulate questions to guide further assessment and intervention (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation);
3. plan, conduct, and evaluate assessment case studies (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation);
4. plan, conduct and evaluate intervention case studies (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation);
5. demonstrate a working knowledge of the role of psychological interventions within a multidisciplinary team (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation);
6. construct and present case reports in oral and written formats setting (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation);
7. demonstrate insightful self-analysis of their clinical intervention expertise (Mid-Practicum Interview and Final Practicum Evaluation).

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specific goals for assessment and intervention skills to be arranged between student and supervisors. See Practicum Guidelines.</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED**

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the ‘Textbook Search’ facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click ‘Semester’, then enter your ‘Course Code’ (no spaces).


**REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Directed reading as assigned and recorded in the Goals and Objectives Form. Students will consult relevant Psychological Journals.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practical Experience</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Consultation</td>
<td>67.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MID-PRACTICUM INTERVIEW</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>30 Apr 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL PRACTICUM EVALUATION</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>15 Jun 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 2)</td>
<td></td>
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NOTES
1. Refer to the Examiner for information about these due dates.
2. Refer to the Examiner for information about these due dates.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities
   (such as practicum seminars and group supervision) scheduled for them, and to study all
   material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance
   of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and
   administration.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To obtain a satisfactory standard on the final practicum evaluation of the University and
   setting supervisors, the student must obtain a satisfactory rating on all of the assessment
   criteria on the Practicum Evaluation Form.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   Not applicable.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To receive a passing grade in this course students must complete the required hours of
   Practical Experience as organized by the Psychology Practicum Coordinator and obtain
   a satisfactory standard on the Final Practicum Evaluation.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   As P is the only passing grade available for this course, all students who are qualified for
   a passing grade as in Assessment 4 will be given a grade of P. Other students will be given
   either a Failing grade or an Incomplete grade.

6 Examination information:
   There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.

8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 At the start of the practicum a contract will be drawn up between the on-campus supervisor, the setting supervisor and the student regarding supervisory and practicum requirements.

10 An outline of the goals for the practicum will be completed by the setting supervisor and the student within completion of the first 80 hours of practicum.

11 A record of all practicum activity hours and supervision must be maintained by students in log books (see Practicum Guidelines Booklet for details).

12 Written reports and assignments will be as designated in the Goals and Objectives form. Goals used to make specific reference to assessment, intervention, and professional competencies listed by the appropriate APS College and by the Psychologists Board of Queensland.

13 Supervision meetings will be held with setting and academic supervisors as in the Practicum Contract.

14 Assessment 1 is a Mid-Practicum Interview with Supervisors in the setting to determine the student's progress.

15 Assessment 2 is a Final Practicum Evaluation from the setting supervisor based on predetermined criteria for each practicum goal.

16 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of a practicum in extenuating circumstances.

17 Students will require access to email and internet access to USQConnect for this course.

18 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.