Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.
The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at 
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Masters Practicum 3

<table>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
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Academic group: FOSCI
Academic org: FOS005
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 090701

STAFFING
Examiner: Paul Bramston
Moderator: Grace Pretty

REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: PSY8140

RATIONALE
The final Master of Psychology Degree practicum course is designed to provide students with an opportunity for independent practice with supervision within their respective discipline specialisation that is commensurate with the level of performance of a competent and highly professional Psychologist.

SYNOPSIS
Assessment of the student's evaluations and skill development in Practicums 1 and 2 will determine areas within which the student is capable of independent practice within a structured setting. Students who have interests in areas where they have not had the opportunity to train will be able to address some of their time to that area if an appropriate setting is available. However, the primary goal is to prepare the student for entry into the psychology profession.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate, with minimal supervision, competencies as 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. The specific content of the Practicum will include skills as identified in the respective College Competency documents for Sport Psychology and Health Psychology. That is students will be able to:

1. formulate questions to guide assessment and intervention: Assessment 1;
2. plan, conduct, evaluate and write up 4 clinical case studies at individual, group and organisational levels Assessment 4;
3. demonstrate a working knowledge of the role of psychological assessments and interventions within a multidisciplinary team Assessment 2;
4. construct and present individual and organisational reports in oral and written formats appropriate to the setting Assessment 2;

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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</table>

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.

Bramston, P 2006, Practicum contract plan: review forms, USQ Psychology Department, Toowoomba.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practical Experience</td>
<td>300.00</td>
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<td>Supervisor Consultation</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tr>
<td>MID-PLACEMENT INTERVIEW</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>01 Oct 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINAL-PLACEMENT EVALUATION</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>12 Nov 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOUR WRITTEN CASE STUDIES</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>12 Nov 2007</td>
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</table>

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as practicum seminars and supervisor consultations) 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 placement evaluation of the University and setting supervisors, the student must obtain a satisfactory rating on all of the assessment criteria which are predicated on the Goals and Objectives Form and indicated on the Practicum Evaluation Form. Part of the 300hrs of Practicum Activity includes the writing up of 4 case studies of clients worked with in this and the previous two practicums. These case reports need to be at least 2,000 words each in length and should reflect the problem formulation, hypothesis testing approach where treatment programs are constructed on the basis of detailed assessments and history taking, problem formulation, intervention monitoring and final evaluation. Case studies are required to reflect a wide range of client issues (acute as well as chronic), across various age ranges (child, adolescent, adult and older adult), in a variety of settings (inpatient, outpatient, community) and use a variety of clinical skills (assessment, treatment, professional).

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.

**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 and objectives for the practicum will be completed by the setting supervisor and the student within completion of the first 80 hours of practicum.

11 Written reports and assignments will be as designated in the Goals and Objectives form.

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

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

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

15 Students must submit a Critical Case Review of 20,000 words (maximum). This comprises (i) a critical review of a concept central to clinical practice, (ii) a critical analysis of four case interventions conducted during practicums and (iii) a conclusion that considers the implications of the above reviews.

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.