



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PSY-460	Practicum in Psychology	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
4 th year	Social Sciences	Fall
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Required	Psychology	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Maria Koushiou, PhD	4 th
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Face-to-face	Volunteer work required	None

Course Objectives:

The practicum provides the opportunity to students to learn by working (on a volunteer basis) in an applied setting in the field or in research. Field placements are arranged at community agencies serving children, adolescents, or the elderly; mental health facilities; and other sites. During the placement, students are expected to observe and support in the provision of psychological services or implementation of research. Working under the supervision of a qualified professional the student is given tasks that are within the scope of the student's abilities and training. Furthermore, the practicum experience provides opportunities for students to: (1) apply psychological knowledge (learned in classes) to the workplace, (2) acquire a better understanding of the professional issues, requirements and challenges of the helping professions, (3) develop basic skills that are essential in the helping professions. Students will participate in weekly discussions and lectures in the first weeks to clarify these objectives and later to share field experiences.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Approach all psychological service situations in a sensitive and ethical manner
2. Develop basic knowledge on the helping process and the characteristics of the helping relationship
3. Recognize the socio-cultural, individual and ethical factors that facilitate and/or complicate the application of psychological principles and processes.

4. Apply or observe how psychological concepts/theories and research findings are applied in the field
5. Develop basic clinical/communication skills that are essential in the helping professions
6. Develop basic knowledge on psychological assessment, intervention, and/or research
7. Record reactions to different situations in a diary form, reflecting on the implications of their experience and behavior as an individual and in a small group interaction.

Course Content:

1. Introduction to the field
2. Characteristics of a helping relationship
3. Self-exploration as a means to becoming a helper
4. Understanding and applying ethical principles
5. Establishing professional boundaries
6. Acquire basic clinical-communication skills that are essential in the helping profession.
7. Acquire basic knowledge and skills in psychological assessment, intervention, and/or research
8. Being able to say goodbye-termination of practicum
9. Participating in a group process – group supervision
10. Reflection and working with a diary

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Role playing, Group and small group discussions, Keeping a field diary, Reporting

Assessment Methods:

Each student will be passed (P) or not passed (Inc) in this course.

Practicum: The student is required to work for a period of 100 hours in the field. After initial placements are made students must fulfill 100 hours in the field and 20 hours in the classroom interaction.

Group presentation in class on a specific area in Psychology (e.g. Clinical Psychology, Counseling Psychology, etc.) including information on the duties/work of a psychologist working in this area, on how one becomes licensed/meets criteria to work in the specified area, etc.

Final Essay Assignment: Upon completion of the practicum, the student has to submit a final essay reflecting on his/her practicum experience with reference to 10 questions provided by the instructor.

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Your practicum in psychology: A guide for maximizing knowledge and competence (2 nd ed.)	Matthews, J., Walker, E. C.	American Psychological Association	2015	978-1433820007

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Becoming a helper (6 th ed.)	Shneider-Corey, M., & Corey, G.	Brooks/Cole Cengage Learning	2011	978-0495812265
The unbreakable student: 6 Rules for Staying Sane at University	Hooper, N.	Little, Brown book group	2021	ISBN: 978-1-47214-538-3