



Oklahoma State University (OSU) Graduate College MPH 5030: Master of Public Health Practicum

Course Description

The Council on Education for Public Health (CePH) requires that all students engage in a culminating experience that combines public health knowledge and skills. This experience allows direct application of course content in an applied setting under guidance and supervision from faculty and community supervisors. The goal of this experience is to enrich classroom activity with practical understanding. Placement sites require prior approval from a committee comprised of two core and one affiliate public health faculty. Placement sites may include governmental or non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, applied public health field research, health service settings (including those in universities and schools), or worksite wellness programs.

Required Hours or Weekly Schedule

Students must identify a field placement site prior to enrollment in MPH 5030. The hours and days worked will be negotiated with your site and supervisor. Two hundred (200) hours must be accrued onsite. If the practicum is completed in the summer (12 weeks) or during a short-term (8 weeks), the expected hours per week will be higher than during a traditional term.

Students should make themselves available to meet with the faculty practicum advisor midway through the semester to assess progress. The faculty practicum advisor will also be available to meet as needed.

Expectations

Introductory Presentation

- ❖ *After* the student has chosen the three-member faculty Practicum Committee, and has been given approval for the practicum project, the student is expected to create an Introductory Presentation (10-20 minutes via TEAMS or ZOOM) to present to their Practicum Committee. It is the responsibility of the student to provide visual aids, such as Powerpoint, etc. and schedule the meeting day/time.

- ❖ Students are expected to complete a Reflective Journal after every 50 hours worked: four (4) total Reflective Journals are expected. Journals should include specific activities conducted as part of the field training experience. Each journal is expected to be at least three (3) double-spaced pages and should include discussion of obstacles/challenges encountered as well as successes. Reflections should emphasize *at least three* of the following topics:
 - Challenging knowledge or previously held beliefs.

- Evidence of skill development or learning. What are you learning in this field placement?
 - Theory versus practice. What experiences have you had that conflict or align with classroom learning?
 - Professional development. What opportunities does this site offer for professional development? Have you engaged in any training activities?
 - Relationship with preceptor/other staff. Describe your site supervisor’s role and interactions with you at your site. What management/leadership styles are exemplified in your field site?
 - Insight into how the organization views the practicum and your work.
- ❖ The student will also be expected to develop an Electronic Portfolio. This Portfolio is a collection of materials developed by the student throughout the practicum experience; materials from throughout the MPH coursework can also be included. Students are expected to use VisualCV (www.visualev.com). VisualCV will guide students through completion of an online Curriculum Vita with active links to work that exemplify core competencies. Students are expected to create a practicum portfolio within the Visual CV. The online CV and Portfolio should include:
- Practicum Report. All students are expected to complete a written report upon completion of their practicum. The written report will present 7 of the 22 competencies and outcomes from the site, in addition to culminating the course of study through demonstration of key skills taught within the program. The written assignment may be approximately 12 – 17 pages in length, double spaced, excluding appendices.
 - Learning contract including Scope of Work.
 - Deliverables described in the Scope of Work. Attach documents created as part of the practicum.
 - Student CV.

CANVAS Assignments

All essays and the final paper are required to be turned in through the Assignment folder in CANVAS for the corresponding submission. All materials will be dropped through “Turn-It-In,” which will assess the amount of original content vs. any plagiarism within the assignment. Students with less than 70% original content will be subject to disciplinary action. (Please read the section on Academic Dishonesty in this syllabus.)

Distribution of Grades	
❖	Effort, time invested (progress reports, etc.): 10%
❖	Practicum Portfolio: 50%
❖	Reflections: 40%

Final Grade Distribution:

A: 90 - 100%

B: 80 – 89%

C: 70 – 79%

D: 60 – 69%

F: <60%

Academic Dishonesty or Misconduct

Oklahoma State University's Academic Integrity policy identifies behaviors that violate the fundamental values of academic integrity. These behaviors are described as unauthorized collaboration, multiple submissions (turning in written material that has been previously submitted for other classes/assignments), cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, and plagiarism.

Plagiarism - Plagiarism is presenting the written, published, or creative work of another as the student's own work. Whenever the student uses wording, arguments, data, design, etc., belonging to someone else in a paper, report, oral presentation, or other assignment, the student must make this fact explicitly clear by correctly citing the appropriate references or sources. The student must fully indicate the extent to which any part or parts of the project are attributed to others. **The student must also provide citations for paraphrased materials.** The following are examples of plagiarism: 1) Copying another student's assignment, computer program or examination with or without permission from the author. 2) Copying another student's computer program and changing only minor items such as logic, variable names, or labels. 3) Copying or paraphrasing material from an internet or written source without proper citation. 4) Copying words and then changing them a little, even if the student gives the source. 5) Verbatim copying without using quotation marks, even if the source is cited. 6) Expressing in the student's own words someone else's ideas without giving proper credit. For more information:

<http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu/>

Students with Special Needs

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, each student with a disability is responsible for notifying the University of the disability and to request accommodations. If any student identifies a qualified disability and needs special accommodation, the student should request verification of eligibility for accommodation from the Office of Student Disability Services, Stillwater. Please advise the professor of such disability as soon as possible, and contact Student Disability Services, to ensure timely implementation of appropriate accommodations. Faculty members have an obligation to respond when they receive official notice of a disability but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodation.