



Master of Public Health Program

MPH Practicum
Written Assignment

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. **Each section should be clearly labeled with appropriate headers.**

1. Abstract of work (Limited to 350 words)
 - a. Unlike the thesis, the practicum is a demonstration of skills; therefore, the abstract will follow a non-scientific format that includes issues addressed, a description of the agency and program or experience, a brief description of the results, and a statement of recommendations for next steps.
2. Profile of agency and project (2 – 5 pages)
 - a. Name and location of the organization
 - b. Site supervisor's name and title
 - c. Project supervisor's name & title (if different)
 - d. Student's position in the organization & explanation of why this organization was selected
 - e. Mission and goals of the organization
 - i. Programs offered to reach these goals
 - ii. Populations served – include outside sources to support the service of these particular organizations (census, scientific literature, epidemiological data, etc.)
 - f. Organizational structure
 - i. Inter-unit organization flow chart
 - ii. Relation to other regional organizations or funding bodies
 - g. Influences on programs and policies that impact the organizations ability to fulfill it's goals
3. Learning objectives and outcomes as identified in the Field Practicum Learning Agreement (4 – 5 pages)
4. Demonstration of core public health competencies (5 – 7 pages). All practicum projects must meet 7 of the 22 competencies outlined below.

Evidence-Based Approaches to Public Health

1. Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice.
2. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for the given public health context.
3. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software.
4. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice.

Public Health & Healthcare Systems

5. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
6. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels.

Planning and Management to Promote Health

7. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health.
8. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs.
9. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention.
10. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management.
11. Select methods to evaluate public health programs.

Policy in Public Health

12. Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence.
13. Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes.
14. Advocate for political, social, or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations.
15. Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity.

Leadership

16. Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making.
17. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges.

Communication

18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors.
19. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation.
20. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content.

Interprofessional Practice

21. Perform effectively on interprofessional teams. *Interprofessional refers to engagement with professionals outside of public health, rather than engagement with individuals from other health disciplines (e.g. nutritionists, psychologists, veterinarians, physicians, and etc.).*

Systems Thinking

22. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue.

5. Appendix to include
 - a. Copy of Practicum Learning Agreement
 - b. Site evaluation of student
 - c. Student evaluation of site
 - d. Self-evaluation of practicum
 - e. Faculty Advisor Signature Page