PHNU 783: Concurrent Field Practicum I, Occupational Health Nursing

Number of credits: 2
Faculty: Susan Randolph/Bonnie Rogers

The concurrent field practicum I in occupational health nursing is designed to offer students without experience the opportunity to learn about the role and functions of the occupational health nurse within the context of the work environment. The practicum should allow the student to achieve the following general objectives:

1. Describe the role of the occupational health nurse.
2. Describe characteristics of the workplace and the working population.
3. Identify real or potential work-related hazards.
4. Describe interdisciplinary roles of the occupational health and safety team.
5. Begin to assess health needs of employee populations.
6. Critique employee health and safety programs.
7. Explore own concepts of professionalism in relation to the field experience.
8. Describe and evaluate work processes and mechanisms for surveillance of occupational illnesses and injuries, through worksite tours and observations.

Practicum sites and resource field people will generally be selected and arranged for by the OHN practicum instructor; however, students may select practicum sites with faculty approval.

Since students are enrolled in concurrent academic coursework, the student will be responsible for negotiating the required practicum hours as best meets the needs of the student and organization.

**Requirements**

In addition to the required 90 clinical hours, students will be expected to complete the following:

1. It is recommended that the student keep a daily log of activities to aid in the development of this report and to be reviewed during the faculty site visits and through the semester.
2. The student will need to arrange mutually agreeable dates for the faculty advisor to visit with the student and field resource person.
3. A mid-term and final evaluation conference with the field resource person should be scheduled. This should provide an opportunity for oral constructive feedback and ongoing evaluation.

4. A one-page single-spaced proposal which will include a description of the proposed experience and student objectives and activities for the practicum experience. These objectives should be based on the general course objectives and will be used by the field resource person and practicum instructor to evaluate the learning of the student during the experience. One copy each should be submitted to faculty and the field resource person no later than 2 weeks after the practicum begins.

5. The Work Assessment Guide form shall be completed no later than 3 weeks after the practicum begins as one tool in assessing the site, worker population, and hazards.

6. A written achievement report on the practicum experience based on general course and specific student objectives, not to exceed three single-spaced typed pages, shall be completed and submitted within 1 week following practicum completion.

7. Completion of the written Student Evaluation form, submitted within 1 week following practicum completion.

8. Complete the practicum form which is available at http://www.sph.unc.edu/forms/practicum/ at the time you start your practicum and again when you finish it.

When the practicum is over, you will complete this same form online, indicating which competencies you achieved, and also modifying the description of your practicum if it changed substantially from what you anticipated. Your course grade cannot be assigned until this step is completed. This is a UNC Gillings School of Global Public health requirement.

**Practicum Due Dates**

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<td>Work Assessment Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Achievement Report</td>
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<td>Student Evaluation Form</td>
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