



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

SO230

APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES PRACTICUM I

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	SO230										
Unit name	Applied Social Sciences Practicum I										
Associated higher education awards	Bachelor of Applied Social Science										
Duration	One semester										
Level	Intermediate										
Unit Coordinator	Garth Hentzschel										
Core/Elective	Elective Required for Practicum stream										
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: 240										
Student workload	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Contact hours</td> <td>20 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading, study, and preparation</td> <td>30 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting with placement mentor</td> <td>10 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practicum placement including assignment</td> <td>90 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>150 hours</td> </tr> </table> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>	Contact hours	20 hours	Reading, study, and preparation	30 hours	Meeting with placement mentor	10 hours	Practicum placement including assignment	90 hours	TOTAL	150 hours
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TOTAL	150 hours										
Delivery mode	Face-to-face on site										
Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions	<p><i>Prerequisites</i></p> <p>70 credit points of introductory Social Sciences units, including SO102 Introduction to Applied Social Theories SO114 Foundational Interpersonal Skills</p>										
Rationale	<p>Applied social sciences practitioners increasingly work within a complex array of practice contexts which require them to interact with diverse individuals and groups who hold different priorities. It is important for such workers to be able to draw on and critique applied social sciences skills and knowledge – understanding and applying models, approaches, theories, and strategies – to make sense of their own personal and professional practice in their contexts.</p> <p>Applied social sciences skills and processes are mastered by practice. While several units in the course equip students with the skills and theory necessary for effective work in the disciplines of the applied social sciences, it is not until the student uses those skills in a real life setting that they can really appreciate the utilisation of the skills, the application of the theories, the organisational dynamics of settings and the challenges of building relationships with clients. Additionally, using these skills in a real life setting enables the student to establish appropriate strategies and procedures within a specific practical environment.</p> <p>This unit is the first of three interconnected applied social sciences practicum units which provide a marriage of theory and practice, enabling the student to take the relevant academic knowledge and skills and apply them to a context, utilising a range of approaches and models of applied social sciences practice. This practicum unit commences with observation of professionals in the work environment and encourages the student to practise what they have learned in lectures. In addition, the placement allows students to begin to make informed judgements concerning areas of applied social sciences practice that may (or may not) be of interest as possible fields of future employment.</p>										

	This unit links with the second practicum unit (SO231) and, finally, this practice pathway is enhanced by a 20 credit point practicum in the final semester of the course (SO330) to assist the student to be job ready.
Prescribed text(s)	Cleak, H., & Wilson, J. (2012). <i>Making the most of field placement</i> (3rd ed.). Melbourne, VIC, Australia: Cengage Learning.
Recommended readings	<p>Books</p> <p>Baird, B. (2014). <i>Internship, practicum and field placement handbook</i> (7th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.</p> <p>Corey, G., Corey, M.S., & Callanan, P. (2008). <i>Issues and ethics in the helping professions</i> (8th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/ Cole.</p> <p>Gamble, D., & Weil, M. (2010). <i>Community practice skills: Local to global perspectives</i>. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.</p> <p>Gieseking, J., & Mangold, W. (Eds.).(2014). <i>The people, place, and space reader</i>. New York, NY: Routledge.</p> <p>Green, G.P., & Haines, A. (2012). <i>Asset building and community development</i> (3rd ed.). London, UK: Sage.</p> <p>Guransky, D., Kennedy, R., & Camilleri, P. (2012). <i>The practice of case management: Effective strategies for positive outcomes</i>. Sydney, NSW, Australia: Allen & Unwin.</p> <p>Johns, C. (2013). <i>Becoming a reflective practitioner</i> (4th ed.). West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons.</p> <p>Lavia, J., & Moore, M. (Eds.). (2009). <i>Cross-cultural perspectives on policy and practice: Decolonizing community contexts</i>. Oxon, UK: Routledge.</p> <p>Maidment, J., & Egan, R. (Eds.). (2009). <i>Practice skills in social work and welfare: More than just common sense</i> (2nd ed.). NSW, Australia: Allen & Unwin.</p> <p>O'Hara, A., & Pockett, R. (2012). <i>Skills for human service practice: Working with individuals, groups and communities</i> (2nd ed.). Melbourne, VIC, Australia: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Summers, N. (2012). <i>Fundamentals of case management practice: Skills for the human services</i> (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.</p> <p>Journals</p> <p><i>Community Development Journal</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Community Practice</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Progressive Human Services</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Social Work Practice</i></p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at http://www.biblegateway.com. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
Specialist resource requirements	Students must first receive a placement verification from the Practicum Manager, have it signed by the placement mentor and return it to the Practicum Manager. Before students undertake placements, they must demonstrate their possession of a Blue Card issued by the Public Safety Business Agency of the Queensland Government, or equivalent (some placements will require other types of documentation), and receive a Placement Verification letter from the Practicum Manager. They also need to be familiar with Workplace Health and Safety and organisational policy documents, and wear appropriate work clothing.

<p>Content</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to practicum – forms and booklet 2. Workplace Health and Safety in a practicum setting 3. Preparing for a practicum – aims and relationship to placement mentor 4. Beginning the practicum and developing goals for a Student Learning Plan 5. Being professional in a professional setting: understanding organisational culture and ACWA Practice Standards 6. Learning on practicum – observation for learning in a professional setting 7. Developing a Professional Practice Framework – embedding the theological incarnational, the Christian worldview, and theoretical model within a secular context 8. The social environment and social mapping 9. The reflective practitioner 10. Personal and professional critical evaluation 11. Personal, interpersonal, and professional qualities 12. Community of practice – presentation of tasks 13. Practicum debrief
<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Observed and reflected upon the role of the professional through personal, interpersonal, and professional qualities and behaviour in interactions with clients, placement mentors and colleagues; 2. Demonstrated and reflected, on a foundational level of appropriate contextual knowledge, for undertaking applied social sciences work; 3. Reflected upon the developmental, cultural, and sociological factors which shape people within the organisation; 4. Developed the foundations for responsibility and accountability when working in collaboration in an applied social sciences context; 5. Demonstrated satisfactory performance, and reflected, on the ACWA Practice Standards, Workplace Health and Safety, and a Christian worldview; and 6. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.
<p>Assessment tasks</p>	<p>Task 1: Student Learning Plan</p> <p>On the form provided, develop personalised goals and strategies for developing knowledge and skills during your practicum. This must be in consultation with your unit coordinator and placement mentor and show specific links to ACWA Practice Standards.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 10%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 4, 6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 3</p>

	<p>Task 2: Social Map and Placement Mentor Formative Report</p> <p>Develop a diagrammatical map to show the sociological setting of the placement. Investigate in a paper the following: Where do the clients come from; What are the demographics of the clients; What are the attitudes of the clients; How have the clients come to be here; What are the organisational cultures and the cultures of the wider society? How do you as the student fit into the organisation? Include as the appendix the diagrammatical map and the Placement Mentor Formative Report.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 25%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 2, 4, 6</p> <p>Assessed: Weeks 5-8 during lecturer visit</p> <p>Task 3: Foundational Professional Practice Framework Presentation</p> <p>Develop and present a Professional Practice Framework describing a personal, theological, and theoretical model with which to approach working in the specific discipline area.</p> <p>Present the framework as the subject of a five minute seminar during the second intensive session, and be prepared to respond to questions about the framework.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: Presentation - 5 minutes; Handout - 500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 20%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-3, 5, 6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13, during final intensive</p> <p>Task 4: Evaluation of Practice, Placement Mentor Report and Time Sheets</p> <p>Provide a personal evaluation of your achievement of the goals of the Student Learning Plan and what you might do to further develop these goals into the future. The evaluation must consider ACWA Practice Standards and include examples as evidence on goals achieved. The appendix is to include a list of activities, feedback, Placement Mentor Report and Time Sheets (work and practice hours). The items in the appendix are to be used as evidence towards your Evaluation of Practice</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 2,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 45% (15% Evaluation; 30% Placement Mentor Report)</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13 or one week after completion of practicum</p>
<p>Unit summary</p>	<p>This professional placement unit consists of a practicum of 100 hours (of which 90 hours must comprise actual applied social sciences experience in one of the discipline areas). This may be undertaken in a minimum of eight weeks and a maximum of 14 weeks. The placement occurs in an actual applied social sciences context and requires students to meet with their designated placement mentors for one hour for every 10 hours of activity. This unit comprises the first half of a 200 hour applied social sciences placement in the one setting.</p> <p>Briefing sessions will be held both before and during the placement to facilitate the success of the experience and to establish working relationships between students, placement mentors, CHC and the organisation that is offering the placement.</p>