

CPH 509A Internship/Field Experience

Preceptor Orientation
and
Answers to Frequently Asked
Questions

What is the Internship/Field Experience?

- ◆ A practicum experience for students in the OMPH Primary Health Care and Health Disparities (PHCHD) Track
- ◆ An opportunity to develop and demonstrate mastery of PHCHD Program competencies
- ◆ 3-6 credits total (100-200 hours)

What is the purpose of the Internship/Field Experience?

- ◆ To demonstrate and apply knowledge and skills gained during the program in a real-world setting
- ◆ To integrate theory and practice in a supervised, applied setting
- ◆ Socialization into the field of public health
- ◆ To demonstrate Public Health competencies in the context of the field experience

Student's Responsibilities

- ◆ Develop Learning contract with internship site
- ◆ Develop measurable objectives or outcomes specific to the internship site for each required track competency
- ◆ Negotiate a final product with internship preceptor that demonstrates competencies and meets internship site need

Related Learning Competencies

- ◆ Assess the health status of vulnerable populations.
- ◆ Identify, conduct, participate in, and/or apply research with vulnerable populations.
- ◆ Lead individual actions or collaborate with (community) partners to create, maintain, and modify health promotion and risk reduction programs.
- ◆ Lead and participate in interdisciplinary efforts to address health disparities.

Learning Competencies (continued)

- ◆ Investigate, develop and communicate policy change options.
- ◆ Develop and manage interventions to promote and protect the health of populations at risk.

Learning Competencies (continued)

- ◆ Enact cultural competence as it relates to the communities you are working with in your internship.
- ◆ Act ethically and make apparent the effect of ethical issues on the practice of public health related to the work you are doing in your internship.

What does the Internship/Field Experience Involve?

- ◆ Participating in a project addressing a public health issue, with guidance of preceptor
- ◆ Meeting measurable objectives, and track competencies
- ◆ Preparing a final report or product

What is the role of the Preceptor?

- ◆ Helps shape, and agrees to facilitate, the Internship Proposal
- ◆ Supervises and guides the student through the internship experience; confers with the Internship Coordinator, as necessary
- ◆ Completes the student's Internship Evaluation and sends a signed copy to the Internship Coordinator

What are the minimum qualifications for Preceptors?

- ◆ Public health credentials, by virtue of training and/or experience, for purposes of mentoring the student in the application of the public health skills and knowledge developed during the MPH degree program.

How does the student identify a relevant project?

- ◆ Public health project of interest to the student
- AND--
- ◆ Project of interest and relevance to the field site
- ◆ Work that provides an opportunity to demonstrate learning competencies
- ◆ Can be manageably completed within the 100-200 hour timeframe

Can students get paid?

- ◆ Payment is not expected, nor required
- ◆ May be negotiated between student and preceptor
- ◆ Not a condition of establishing the CPH 509A Internship/Field Experience
- ◆ OHSU is not involved in these arrangements

Why is the Learning Contract important?

- ◆ Specifies student's measurable internship objectives/outcomes, and relates these to the Primary Care & Health Disparities Track Competencies
- ◆ Identifies activities and roles student will fulfill
- ◆ Lists the products student will develop during placement
- ◆ Provides information about the site
- ◆ Projects date of completion

What is the Internship proposal?

- ◆ An agreement between the OHSU internship coordinator, the student and the preceptor on how the student will serve both the internship site and demonstrate the program competencies
- ◆ Must be complete and on file prior to start date. If IRB (student working with patient identifiable data) or off-campus approvals (working directly with patients/clients) are needed, they must also be completed prior to start date. This is not the responsibility of the preceptor

Other processes?

- ◆ OHSU Human Subjects approval if placement has research component, even if project has completed IRB process at non-OHSU site or data are de-identified
- ◆ Risk Management approval, if the Internship will be conducted outside OHSU and there is interaction with clients or their data that can be identified. An interagency contract may be required between OHSU and the precepting organization

What final products does the student submit?

- 1: Evidence/Examples of work completed
 - Product developed for organization
 - Description of what was done and how (weekly journal)
 - Submitted to the agency and a copy submitted with the Internship report to the Internship Coordinator in a version cleaned of any private or sensitive information
- 2: Internship report with responses to report questions
 - Insights into experiences
 - Observations on outcomes, accomplishments, processes, challenges
 - Specific reflections on demonstration of learning competencies
- 3: Evaluation of student by preceptor (mailed directly to Internship Coordinator by preceptor on form provided by student)

Grading

- ◆ Preceptor provides feedback to Internship Coordinator through communication during and after placement, and recommends a final grade via the Student Evaluation Form.
- ◆ The Internship Coordinator reviews all submitted materials and provides final course grade

How is the CPH 509A grade determined?

- ◆ Pass:
 - Accomplishment of learning competencies
 - Preceptor's assessment on the final Internship report
- ◆ No Pass:
 - Learning competencies not met
 - Poor evaluation of student's work by preceptor

What is the purpose of the Student Evaluation Form?

- ◆ To reflect on the overall Internship/field experience
- ◆ To identify the challenges and successes of the student
- ◆ Allows the preceptor to document the student's performance

What are the deadlines for students?

- ◆ Students must register before the term prior to the planned Internship term in order to allow for all approval processes to be completed
- ◆ Students are to have the learning contract developed and signed by the preceptor prior to the beginning of the Internship
- ◆ Students are to provide their preceptors with the Internship final report with due date, ideally to be returned by the end of finals week of the term

How do we resolve problems during CPH 509A?

Preceptors:

- ◆ Work with the student to address any issues
- ◆ Contact the Internship Coordinator to discuss the situation
- ◆ Rely upon the Student's Internship Proposal to frame the work

Students:

- ◆ Are encouraged to resolve problems initially with the preceptor
- ◆ If no resolution, students are to contact the Internship Coordinator
- ◆ Rely upon the Internship Contract to ensure learning objectives are being pursued

Who is the CPH 509A MPH Internship Coordinator?

- ◆ John M Jessup RN, MPH
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- ◆ Mail Correspondence to
- ◆ 140 Buck Creek Road
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- ◆ Please call if you have any questions

Thank you for being an OMPH
Program
Internship Preceptor!

We value your time and
expertise.