

**Tarleton State University – Central Texas**  
**PSY 505 (all sections) - PRACTICUM I: FIELD EXPERIENCE**

UNIVERSITY SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

INTERNSHIP DIRECTOR: Dr. Kelly Barnett

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**I. OVERVIEW**

This course provides students with opportunities to participate in relevant experiences in approved mental health, counseling, marriage and family, or educational settings. Each student receives supervised experiences while practicing knowledge and techniques learned in prior graduate course work.

**II. OBJECTIVES**

Students will:

A. Participate in programs approved by the Practicum Instructor in mental health, counseling, marriage and family, or educational settings to:

1. demonstrate skills and knowledge learned in prior graduate course work.
2. utilize, evaluate, and further develop personal philosophies and techniques of counseling/psychology from the experiences gained within the practicum setting.
3. experience the actual working conditions, demands, and stressors of providing counseling/psychological services while being an integral part of the community program/agency.

B. Discuss, expand, critique, and interpret practicum/internship experiences in individual sessions with the university supervisor or practicum director.

**III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

Baird, B.N. (2007). *The internship, practicum, and field placement handbook* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Selected handouts, books, videos, and materials as required by the university or field supervisor.

#### IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Students must complete a minimum of 150 site supervised contact hours in the placement, depending upon their approved degree plans. These hours must be verified by the site supervisor on the attached time sheets. Site supervisors are also asked to sign, and thereby verify, supervision of at least one (1) hour of group/individual face-to-face supervision each week (at least ½ of the total supervision hours for the practicum must be in individual sessions). Time sheets need to be summarized at the end of the semester on the Summary Log form.

B. Students need to be aware of the rules of the board for the particular license they are seeking. Specifically, students need to be aware of the minimum number of direct client contact hours that must be obtained and which particular activities may be required and which activities may not be acceptable. At a minimum, each student must complete no less than 100 client contact hours in their practicum.

C. Site supervisors are required to submit a grade on the TSU evaluation and grade sheet (attached) for the student at the end of the practicum experience.

D. All students must have appropriate liability insurance.

E. Students must meet with their university supervisor at least four times during the semester. One of these meetings will be at the practicum site and the other three meetings will be at the university supervisor's office. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory.

F. An introspective autobiography will be written. This paper should be 7 to 10 pages in length, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins and a font size no larger than 12 points. It is due at the first meeting. Students should include information regarding the following: a brief introduction to your life and family background. Most important is your introspection regarding your life's experiences and how they have contributed to your being the person you are; further, what are your attributes that "fit" counseling, what are your perceived strengths, and your areas for growth.

G. Students will read the course textbook at their own pace. Quizzes will be given over selected chapters in the course textbook.

First quiz – Chapters 2, 3, 4

Second quiz – Chapters 6, 7

Third quiz – Chapters 9, 10, 11

These quizzes are available at the department office. Requests to take the quizzes at the department office must go through the department secretary. All quizzes must be taken **no later than one month from the first official class day of the**

**semester.** No quizzes may be taken after that date. The results will be forwarded to the university supervisor.

H. Three counseling/therapy tapes (preferably video but audio is acceptable) will be completed. Be sure to obtain informed consent for each tape you make (use the permission to photograph/tape form). You must critique each tape using the tape critique form. One tape and its critique will be due at the second, third, and fourth meetings with the university supervisor. The university supervisor will also critique your tape and evaluate your effort.

If a student cannot complete counseling/therapy tapes, the following activities may be substituted: (1) direct observation of the student conducting a counseling/therapy/testing session by the university supervisor; (2) role playing an actual counseling/therapy session with a fellow student or coworker (with the student as counselor/therapist).

**YOUR HOURS (EACH TIME SHEET SIGNED BY THE SITE SUPERVISOR), SUMMARY LOG, AND SITE SUPERVISOR'S EVALUATION ARE DUE TO THE UNIVERSITY SUPERVISOR NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM ON THE MONDAY OF FINALS WEEK. A GRADE OF "F" WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR THE COURSE IF THIS DOCUMENTATION IS NOT PROVIDED.**

**A NEW APPLICATION FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE DESIGNATED DEADLINE FOR EACH SEMESTER OF PRACTICUM.**

V. GRADING

Contributions toward the final grade:

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Tapes & Critiques              | 25%        |
| Quizzes                        | 10%        |
| Autobiography                  | 15%        |
| <u>Supervisor's Evaluation</u> | <u>50%</u> |
| TOTAL                          | 100%       |

VI. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to the office of the Disability Services Director on the Stephenville campus or to the office of the Executive Director of the Tarleton State University - Central Texas. You are encouraged to speak with your University Supervisor and Site Supervisor about accommodations you might need to help assure success in this class.

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