



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

**SO330**

**APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES PRACTICUM III**

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.

<b>Unit code</b>	SO330										
<b>Unit name</b>	Applied Social Sciences Practicum III										
<b>Associated higher education awards</b>	Bachelor of Applied Social Science										
<b>Duration</b>	One semester										
<b>Level</b>	Advanced										
<b>Core/Elective</b>	Elective Required for Practicum stream										
<b>Weighting</b>	Unit credit points: 20 Course credit points: 240										
<b>Student workload</b>	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Contact hours</td> <td>40 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading, study, and preparation</td> <td>60 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting with Mentor</td> <td>20 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practicum placement including assignment</td> <td>180 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>300 hours</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>	Contact hours	40 hours	Reading, study, and preparation	60 hours	Meeting with Mentor	20 hours	Practicum placement including assignment	180 hours	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300 hours</b>
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<b>Delivery mode</b>	Face-to-face on site										
<b>Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions</b>	<i>Prerequisite</i> SO231 Applied Social Sciences Practicum II										
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>This unit is the third of three applied social sciences practicum units that provide a marriage of theory and practice. This will enable the student to take understandings and practical skills relevant to working with people into a variety of actual applied social sciences settings.</p> <p>In their final year of study, applied social sciences students need to demonstrate their ability to operate with a high level of autonomy under the observation of a supervisor and to work cooperatively with members of an organisation to achieve specific goals. At this level, students are also expected to integrate research into their work to develop informed best practice. To this end, students will develop an action research based project designed for the placement and enacted throughout their time in the setting. They will also collect different forms of data to analyse the success of the project.</p> <p>This unit constitutes the culmination of students' practicum experiences in the applied social sciences practicum pathway. Building on the experiences gained in SO230 Applied Social Sciences Practicum I and SO231 Applied Social Sciences Practicum II, and drawing on the skills and understandings developed during the course as a whole, this unit provides opportunity for students to demonstrate their competence, abilities and informed best practice in a realistic setting within their chosen field of practice.</p>										
<b>Prescribed text(s)</b>	<p>Blanche, M.T., Durrheim, K., &amp; Painter, D. (Eds.). (2008). <i>Research in practice: Applied methods for the social sciences</i> (2nd ed.). South Africa: University of Cape Town Press.</p> <p>Kiser, P. (2015). <i>The human services internship- Getting the most from your experience</i> (4th ed.). Melbourne, VIC, Australia: Cengage Learning.</p>										

<p><b>Recommended readings</b></p>	<p><b>Books</b></p> <p>Baird, B. (2014). <i>Internship, practicum and field placement handbook</i> (7th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.</p> <p>Guransky, D., Kennedy, R., &amp; Camilleri, P. (2012). <i>The practice of case management: Effective strategies for positive outcomes</i>. Sydney, NSW, Australia: Allen &amp; Unwin.</p> <p>Johns, C. (2013). <i>Becoming a reflective practitioner</i> (4th ed.). West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.</p> <p>Lomax, R., &amp; Jones, K. (Eds.). (2012). <i>Surviving your social work placement</i>. New York, NY: Routledge.</p> <p>Sheafor, B., &amp; Horejsi, C. (2012). <i>Techniques and guidelines for social work practice</i> (9th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Allyn &amp; Bacon.</p> <p>Summers, N. (2012). <i>Fundamentals of case management practice: Skills for the human services</i> (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole, Cengage Learning.</p> <p><b>Journals</b></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 <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">http://www.biblegateway.com</a>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<p><b>Specialist resource requirements</b></p>	<p>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>
<p><b>Content</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review of: forms and booklet, Workplace Health and Safety in a practicum setting; ongoing development of goals and personal framework</li> <li>2. Best practice from research and information search</li> <li>3. Planning and designing an action research project</li> <li>4. Ethical issues in social research</li> <li>5. Implementation and collection of data for an action research project</li> <li>6. Reporting and evaluating the outcomes of the action research project</li> <li>7. Self-Care Plan</li> <li>8. Networking within and outside the organisation</li> <li>9. The reflective practitioner and applying research for best practice</li> <li>10. Personal and professional critical evaluation</li> <li>11. Planning your career</li> <li>12. Community of practice and practicum debrief</li> </ol>

<p><b>Learning outcomes</b></p>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. displayed evidenced-based professional qualities towards clients, placement mentors and colleagues;</li> <li>2. demonstrated their ability to use action research to inform and change practice in the applied social sciences;</li> <li>3. critically evaluated and reflected upon outcomes of research-based best-practice;</li> <li>4. appraised and critically reflected upon the importance of a Self-Care Plan within the applied social science field;</li> <li>5. applied and critically reflected upon research-based, best-practice in leadership and organisational skills with links to policy, including Workplace Health and Safety;</li> <li>6. employed a high level of autonomy and integration of ACWA Practice Standards, ACWA Code of Ethics, Workplace Health and Safety and a Christian worldview in their practice; and</li> <li>7. communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammars, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Assessment tasks</b></p>	<p><b>Task 1: Action Research Project Proposal</b></p> <p>In consultation with your unit coordinator and placement mentor, develop a plan for a research-based activity.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 700 words  Weighting: 20%  Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7  Assessed: Week 3</p> <p><b>Task 2: Self-Care Plan Presentation and Placement Mentor Formative Report</b></p> <p>Develop a Self-Care Plan which will be effective for an applied social sciences worker.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: Presentation - 10 minutes; Report - 1,000 words  Weighting: 30%  Learning Outcomes: 1, 4, 6, 7  Assessed: Weeks 5-8 (Draft and Lecturer Visit Report); Week 13 (Presentation during final intensive)</p> <p><b>Task 3: Action Research Project Report and Evaluation, Placement Mentor Summative Report and Time Sheets</b></p> <p>Provide a critical evaluation of your planning and implementation of the activity. Link this discussion to research, theory and ACWA documents.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1,200 words  Weighting: 50% (20% Evaluation; 30% Placement Mentor Report)  Learning Outcomes: 1-7  Assessed: Week 13, or one week after completion of practicum</p>

<b>Unit summary</b>	<p>This professional placement unit consists of a practicum of 200 hours (of which 180 hours must comprise actual people helping experience in one of the discipline areas). This may be undertaken in a minimum of eight weeks and a maximum of 52 weeks. The placement occurs in an actual applied social sciences context and requires students to meet with their placement mentors for one hour for every 10 hours of actual people-helping activity.</p> <p>As well as a significant increase in the level of independent functioning within their chosen applied social sciences context, students will be expected to demonstrate a more advanced capacity for reflective self-awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses in their roles, and for planning, implementation and critical evaluation of an action research project in which they engage during their placement. Importance will also be placed on students' awareness of and adherence to professional and ethical expectations regarding personal conduct and interpersonal relationships, both within the organisation and in contact with people in the wider community.</p>
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