

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
REHABILITATION SERVICES PROGRAM

PRACTICUM IV RP406

Winter 1991 February 20 - April 12, 1991

Location: Each student will be assigned to an agency serving people with developmental disabilities.

Instructor: Betty Barton Office: Suite 202
Windsor Court
538-3960 (W)
539-6337 (H)

Prerequisite: RP306

Pre or co-requisite: RP400, RP403, RP407

Co-requisite: RP404

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students may use this practicum to fulfill their residential, vocational, or educational placement if required.

Concepts and skills learned in the classroom are applied through a six-week placement with community service agencies. During this practicum, it is expected that students will be able to complete agency assigned tasks with only minimal supervision. Application of theory and skills presented in Semester V will be incorporated into this practicum cumulatively with the theory and skills covered earlier in the program.

COURSE FORMAT

Students are expected to work the regular hours of a full-time employee of the agency except Mondays. Students are required to attend classes all day Monday so will spend a four-day work week at the agency. Students are responsible only for the implementation of agency directives. With the exception of Rehabilitation Services Program assignments, students are not expected to take responsibility for decisions, re: service delivery and/or design. Regular visits by an instructor will be scheduled with the student and agency supervisor throughout the practicum.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will:

1. Become familiar with the nature and scope of the agency's programs.
2. Develop a positive rapport with people served by the agency on an individual and/or group basis.
3. Take an active part in the planning, designing, implementation and evaluation of programs for people served by the agency.
4. Work effectively as a team member with agency staff.
5. Apply knowledge of leadership and teambuilding skills as appropriate within the practicum setting.
6. Apply knowledge and skills relating to family support of the people served in a manner consistent with the practicum.
7. Design or review and revise a program to promote the development of skills in one of the following domains:
 - domestic living
 - community mobility
 - leisure
 - vocational
 - academic
8. Continue to apply and refine interpersonal and interviewing skills throughout the practicum.
9. Use self-evaluation as a tool to increase awareness and refinement of his/her skills.
10. Develop and implement a plan to meet relevant personal learning objectives that have been identified by the student for him/herself.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

a. Set Assignments

1. Re: objectives #6 & #7

Please see attached assignments and guidelines.

2. Re: Objective #9

Students will be required to keep a record of two situations they handled well and two situations that they could have handled more effectively for each week of the practicum. The student will be prepared to discuss each situation clearly describing his/her own behavior, specifying why that behavior was appropriate or not and, where applicable, specifying a more appropriate/effective behavior.

b. Individualized Assignments

The student and faculty supervisor will meet approximately one week into the practicum placement and negotiate a contract that will specify what the student will do to address these objectives. Every effort will be made to ensure that this plan takes into account the unique characteristics of the agency in which the practicum is being completed. A blank copy of the contract form is attached.

FIELD PLACEMENT EVALUATION

Agency personnel will complete a Practicum Evaluation form for each student.

Faculty evaluate students based on observation of strengths and needs in the field. The extent to which the student uses supervision to maximize learning will be taken into account in the faculty evaluation. Students are expected to be prepared to address specific issues during faculty supervision visits. Objectives will be set by students and faculty jointly each week. Attainment of those objectives and readiness to set new objectives will be addressed in the faculty evaluation.

CREDITATION

Practicum IV is credited on a pass/fail basis. Successful completion of the practicum requires that the student be credited with successful completion of ALL assignment and evaluations.