Course Number: CP 6650

Course Title: Practicum

Semester Hours: 3 hours

Pre-requisite(s): Completion of 18 semester hours of required courses (to include CP 6610, 6642, 6649, PSY 6645) and permission of College of Education.

Approved Delivery Methods: Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to: regular classroom, web-enhanced, and computerized/internet instruction. Eight week and sixteen week format classes are options. Methods will vary depending upon the instructor.

Catalog Course Description:
CP 6650 Practicum
This study provides an opportunity for the student to perform, under supervision, a variety of activities that a regularly employed professional counselor would perform. Practicum provides for the development of counseling skills under supervision. The student must complete 100 clock hours including a minimum of 40 hours of direct service with clients. Experiences are accompanied by regularly scheduled, weekly on-campus group supervision designed to provide opportunity for analysis and evaluation of supervised activity. Prerequisites: Must be taken toward end of program. Permission of instructor and department chair required.

Goals and Objectives of Course:
The Teacher Education and Counseling Programs are designed to provide quality, academic programs that emphasize meaningful and practical learning experiences in preparing students to be innovative, informed, reflective decision-makers. In addition, this course provides opportunities to demonstrate knowledge of:

OBJECTIVES: The student will:
1. Complete the requisite number of hours for Practicum (100 hours in one semester). C CC/SC D, C III.G & H. Alabama State Department of Education School Counseling (3) (b)
2. Demonstrate the ability to understand and appropriately act on one’s personal, professional, limitations and seek assistance from supervisors when necessary. C III. G. 2. & 3., C III. H. 2. & 3.
3. Demonstrate the ability to put into practice information regarding policies, case law and legislation relevant to counselors and comply with such regulations in an appropriate manner. C CC A3, A4
4. Demonstrate the ability to participate in agency/school needs assessment, program planning and evaluation. C CC B.3; SC C.1.G.
5. Accurately and to the satisfaction of site and faculty supervisors complete treatment
plans, case notes, and other duties recognizing client records are legal documents. Within the context of the class requirements, maintain session notes and summaries of client contacts. C III.D.5, C III.G.4., C III.H. 4 & 7, A.4

6. Demonstrate adherence to appropriate professional boundaries and codes of ethics. C CC A.2. A.4; SC A.10

7. Apply appropriate counseling techniques in groups and individual counseling sessions as leader/co-leader. C III.H.4, CC C.7.; SC C.2. A.&B.

School Counseling Specialty:

8. Gain experience with direct and indirect services provided by school counselors. C SC C.3.c

9. Conduct consultation sessions with parents, teachers, staff, agencies, etc. C SC C.3.b, C SC B.2

10. Gain experience in planning, development, implementing, monitoring and evaluating school counseling programs. C SC B.6

Legend: C=CACREP, CC=Community Counseling standards, SC= School Counseling standards, II.A.2= specific standard

Approved Text(s):

Other Materials:

Content:
Ethics
Client Rights
Crisis counseling/suicide intervention
Counseling skill building
Legal Issues in the Schools
School Counseling Topics

Methods of Instruction:
Methods of instruction include in-school experiences under the supervision of a certified school counselor and university supervisor. The university supervisor may use lecture, discussion, field trips, videos, guest speakers, modeling or other methods to teach the necessary skills.

Laboratory Experiences:
Students will work in a school setting under the supervision of a certified school counselor. The practicum student provides school-based services to students. For CP 6650, the student completes 100 hours of practicum experience. The 100 hours must include 40 hours of direct service with school age students.

Course Requirements:
Requirements will vary by instructor.
Practicum consists of gaining knowledge, skills, and attitudes appropriate to a professional counselor. A major aspect of the practicum experience is discovering attitudes toward self and changing those that interfere with being effective counselors. All of these aspects of practicum are worked on through a combination of didactic and experiential processes in a group supervision setting of a minimum of one and one-half hours per week.

Work will be focused on developing basic helping skills and becoming aware of and working through personal issues. Class sessions will involve experiential exercises; discussions of theories, techniques, common problems, ideas, and analyses of case presentations. Varied counseling settings and populations served will be discussed to address client characteristics and issues for both school counselors and agency counselors. Specific counseling issues as presented in recent professional literature will be reviewed.

The practicum contract is completed prior to beginning the practicum experience. Each student will have a site supervisor and supervising faculty member assigned. Students will meet weekly with the supervising faculty member and site supervisor on an individual or triadic basis. (C III.G. 2& 3) Student professional liability insurance must be in place prior to beginning work with clients.

Each student is generally expected to initiate his/her own arrangements for practicum placement at an elementary and a secondary school site. The onsite supervisor must be a certified school counselor with two years of experience in the field.

Evaluation:
Evaluation of course objectives may include, but are not limited to class discussions, student presentations, in-school presentations, and completion of assigned projects. The onsite supervisor and the university supervisor will complete a formal evaluation of the practicum experience. Evaluation is ongoing in the development of the student as a competent school counselor. Supervision is the major part of the practicum evaluation. Methods of evaluation will vary depending on the instructor.

Evaluation of practicum:
- P = Passing
- F = Failure
- IP = In Progress

Additional Services:

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: Students with disabilities, or those who suspect they have a disability, must register with the Disability Services Coordinator in order to receive accommodations. Students currently registered with the Disability Services Office are required to present their Disability Services Accommodation Letter to each faculty member at the beginning of each term. If you have any questions, contact the Disability Services Coordinator.

Absence Policy:
In registering for classes at the university students accept responsibility for attending scheduled class meetings, completing assignments on time, and contributing to
class discussion and exploration of ideas.

In severe cases of inclement weather or other emergency conditions, the Office of Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost will announce cancellation of classes through the local and regional media as well as through the University’s web site.

**Academic Misconduct:**
*Students should refer to the Standards of Conduct section of the Oracle, the student handbook, for policies regarding misconduct.*

**Other pertinent information relating to specialization requirement:**

Date: 6-10-05
6-12-08