

University of Toronto Dalla Lana School of Public Health

MPH Health Promotion Practica

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Goals of this presentation

- Introduce the purpose of the practicum
- Outline the requirements of the practicum
- Outline roles and responsibilities
- Provide information so that you may succeed academically and develop professionally



The Practicum is a Unique Learning Opportunity

- It allows you to:
 - Satisfy the academic requirements for the MPH program
 - *Apply* classroom learning (*Forest beyond the trees!*)
 - Be *engaged* in a planned, supervised and evaluated experience
 - Meet your academic goals and follow your professional interests



Unique Learning Opportunity

- Gain insight into your own personal abilities and aptitudes
- Build your self-confidence
- Develop communication, team-building and problem-solving skills
- Improve your employability by gaining work experience
- Gain new perspective of how an agency operates



Supervisor comments

- “(The student) was proactive in preparing for the evaluative model that would make sense for this program. She selected the tools, modified to our specifications, and facilitated the process with clients and partners”.
- “ It has been a pleasure to work with (the student), and if anything she has exceeded our expectations...She has proven very skilled at the assigned tasks, and her work is important in advancing this research project”.
- “(The student) excelled at all the placement requirements and has made a significant contribution to many organizational priorities. We are quite happy with the practicum experience and would gladly welcome students in subsequent years.”



Student comments

- “I was able to practice and improve my writing, editing and research skills through this practicum placement and look at literature with a more critical approach”.
- “Overall I feel that this placement has been very valuable to my learning and understanding of health promotion practice, [within] a community-based healthcare setting. I have gained many skills during my time here and feel that my supervisor and other program staff were very engaged in furthering my learning on a daily basis”.



Prerequisites

- CHL5004H Introduction to Public Health Sciences
 - CHL5801H Health Promotion I
 - CHL5803H Health Promotion II
 - CHL5220H Community Health Appraisal Methods I
 - CHL5221H Community Health Appraisal Methods II
 - CHL5110H Theory and Practice of Program Evaluation
 - *CHL5105H Social Determinants of Health*
-
- All the required courses in 1st year



Community partners recruit students because...

- You bring new energy and ideas
- Are up to date with new technology and classroom theories
- They need help during the summer/winter periods
- They are “screening” for future potential employees
- They want to strengthen the partnership with DLSPH



Responsibilities

- Practicum placement officer
- Student



Practicum placement officer responsibilities

- Provide a list of placements to students in January
- Assist the student in selecting their first placement
- Ensure practicum supervisors are aware of their roles and responsibilities
- Assist in completing the planning framework, as necessary
- Assist in determining if practicum objectives/ proposed deliverables meet required program criteria
- Collect and evaluate forms and final package
- Available for meetings before, during or after placements with students and/or supervisors



Student responsibilities

- Contact potential preceptors in a professional manner with your CV and cover letter; be prepared to interview for a position
- Ensure the Practicum forms (beginning, interim and final) are submitted to the practicum placement officer in a timely manner
- Enroll for practicum credits
- Ensure you have read and abide by the University's Standards for Professional Practice Behavior
- Comply with policies and procedures of placement organization
- Maintain communication with practicum placement officer
- Represent DLSPH!



MPH Health Promotion Practicum Final Checklist

- To be submitted:
 - Confirmation of Practicum form
 - Planning Framework
 - Interim Evaluation (student)
 - Interim Evaluation (supervisor)
 - Amendment form, if applicable (student)
 - Final Evaluation (student)
 - Final Evaluation (supervisor)
 - Practicum deliverables (as outlined in planning framework)
 - Weekly Journal entries
 - Practicum narrative report (3-4 page reflection on practicum experience)
 - Practicum Abstract (1/2 page)
 - PowerPoint poster
- The practicum package is reviewed by the Practicum placement officer and the MPH Health Promotion Program Director
- Grade: Credit/ No Credit



Practicum products

A few examples:

- Powerpoint slides
- Resource material such as brochures and flyers
- Workshop outlines
- Manuscript for publication
- Needs assessment
- Evaluation framework



University of Toronto Student Placement Agreements

- As of 2014, the University of Toronto requires a student placement agreement to be in place with the host organization prior to a student starting an **UNPAID** placement.
- No agreement, no placement.
- List of organizations with agreements in place with UT on Blackboard.



Resources

- Practicum manual
- Blackboard site (access granted December 2016)
- Practicum placement officer
- NETWORK! Talk to colleagues, guest lecturers, faculty members. Go to events. Ask questions. Follow-up.



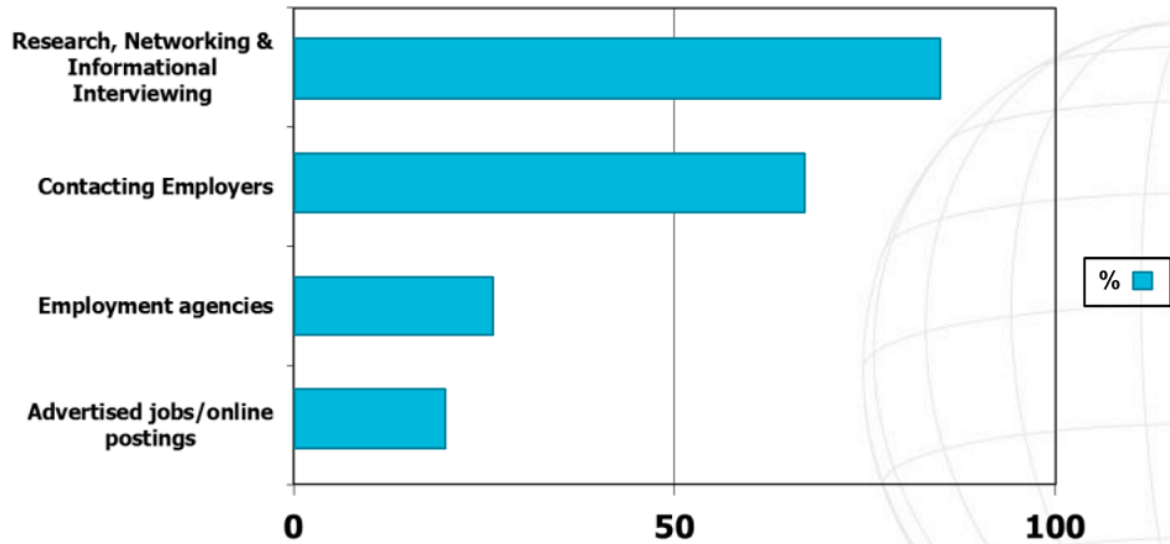
Chapter 2 - Full-time Work



Slide Title	Duration	Status
Chapter 2 - Full-time Work	00:29	
Workshop Features	00:10	
Workshop Objectives	00:18	
Work search process	01:19	✓
Work search process.....	00:46	✓
How do people find jobs...	00:47	
Work Search Strategies	00:46	
Work Search Strategies	00:37	
Work Search Strategies	00:27	
Next steps and Resourc...	00:44	

Find 03:48 / 06:31 Minutes Clear

How do people find jobs?



Survey Data: Adapted from a variety of surveys including the annual Career Centre Recent Graduate Employment Surveys; Richard Bolles "What Colour Is Your Parachute?" 2011; and Canadian Labour Market Information)

CAREERCENTRE | 214 College Street, Toronto, ON M5T 2Z9 | www.careers.utoronto.ca



Examples of Past Practicum Sites

- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Region of Peel, Public Health
- The Hospital for Sick Children
- Princess Margaret Cancer Centre
- Centre for Urban Health Solutions St. Michael's Hospital
- Toronto Public Health
- Northwestern Health Unit
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Canadian Public Health Association
- University of Toronto



Examples of Past Practicum Projects

- Research project on microbial food safety risk assessment
- Monitor and report on chemotherapy consenting practices
- Studying deaths among adults who are homeless and recently housed
- Overseeing production of scientific publication on dog bite injuries to humans
- Conducting literature reviews and analysis on public health topics
- Research on methods to estimate small area cancer incidence and risk factors
- Systematic review/meta analysis on alcohol epidemiology in India



Professional Development

- Graduate Professional Skills workshops
- Career Centre online workshops: finding work, resume/ CV & cover letters, networking, interview techniques



Enrolling on ROSI

- First practicum:
 - 16 weeks FT (~560hrs) = 2.0 credits (CHL6010Y & CHL6012Y)
- Second practicum (optional):
 - 12 weeks FT (~420hrs) = 1.5 credits (CHL6020Y, CHL6021H)
- Trouble shooting: Ellen Sokoloff e.sokoloff@utoronto.ca





Global Health Emphasis Requirements

1. The requirements of their core Master's program
2. CHL5700H – Global Public Health
3. One global public health elective course
4. A global public health practicum placement



Words of wisdom

- Read up on agencies/ researchers/organizations you might be interested in working with, early!
- Set specific objectives/goals in your planning framework
- Discuss your objectives and goals with your supervisor before you go on site
- Make arrangements early so that you have a smooth, productive practicum
- When in doubt, do not hesitate to get in contact with me, the earlier the better – I'm here to support you!



Questions? Concerns? Contact me

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