Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Lethbridge  
**PUBH 4550 – Practicum in Public Health**  
**Course Outline – Fall 2015**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Advisor</th>
<th>Practicum Coordinator</th>
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**COURSE OVERVIEW**
This is the consolidated practical course in the Faculty of Health Sciences Public Health degree. In this course, students will engage full-time in a public health practice setting and, under the direction of a site preceptor, work to meet course objectives. This course will provide students the opportunity to work with organizations and community groups to address public health issues. Concepts of population health promotion, inter-sectoral collaboration, and partnerships will be explored through work in community settings. Students will focus on non-clinical skills and the development of core competencies for public health. In order to be successful, students must meet all course learning objectives, as well as demonstrate progress in the development of core competencies for public health in Canada (Public Health Agency of Canada, 2008).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**
In the context of their assigned practicum, and by the end of the consolidation experience, students will:
1. Demonstrate application of the core public health concepts, theoretical frameworks, and principles with a focus on population health, health promotion, disease and injury prevention or health protection.
2. Identify a public health issue(s) and demonstrate the ability to apply public health science/health promotion strategies appropriate to a practice setting in addressing identified issues.
3. Apply ethical principles, and demonstrate ethical approaches to public health practice, and respect for persons and diversity.
4. Demonstrate effective communication, both oral and written, with clients (i.e. individuals, groups, and/or communities), professionals, and agencies while in the practice setting.

**PREREQUISITES**
Prior to registering for practicum (PUBH 4550), students must have met the following course requirements:
- Health Sciences 2003, Public Health 3000, Public Health 3420, and a minimum of 90.0 credit hours

**PRACTICUM PERIOD**
- The first day of practicum will be **September 9, 2015**, and the last day is expected to end on or before December 11, 2015.
- Practicum is scheduled for Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm, unless otherwise dictated by the designated Preceptor’s schedule. Each workday is equivalent to 7.5 hours (excludes a half hour lunch break), and students are expected to complete 37.5 hours per week.
• A total of 487.5 practicum hours are required for completion of course requirements. This necessitates full-time work for 13 weeks, 7.5 hours per day. Students are responsible for logging their own hours for approval with their assigned preceptor.

• Students are not required to work overtime, but may do so with permission of the Faculty Advisor when necessary to participate in key practice setting events. They may also work alternate hours to mirror their preceptor schedule, or to participate in practicum-related activities which take place outside of regular work hours.

• Students are expected to inform their advisor by email if changes have been made to their work schedule which do not comply with the Monday – Friday, 8:30-4:30 expectation.

REQUIRED READINGS


RECOMMENDED READINGS (APPLY THEORY IN PRACTICE)
The Faculty Advisor may post resources for practice in Moodle throughout the semester and students are expected to be familiar with the resources available on the Moodle site. Students are also encouraged to post and share information that might be helpful to their peers.

REQUIREMENTS
In order to receive a credit for this course, the timely completion of these assignments is required:

• Pre-Practicum Documents (these are discussed further in the Student Handbook and Orientation)
• Practicum Placement
• Draft and Final Practicum Guides (Appendix II)
• Two Reflective Journals (Appendix III)
• Scholarly Contribution/Project (Appendix IV)
• Summary of Practicum Setting (Appendix V)
• Student and Preceptor Evaluation Forms (Appendix VI & VII)

Students are required to meet all of the requirements and submit documentation by the deadlines as outlined in the Public Health Student Handbook and the Course Outline. Failure to meet the requirements for practicum may result in a delay in the practicum or may result in the student being excluded from the practicum placement (see Public Health Student Handbook).

All resources and forms can be found in Moodle. When submitting please title your documents using your last name first then the assignment title. For example "Amson Practicum Guide".
NOTABLE DATES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>½ day course orientation</td>
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<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>First day of Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Statutory Holiday – no practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>Statutory Holiday – no practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>Expected last day for practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Practicum student round table (location and time TBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>All practicum hours to be completed prior to this date.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>Summary of Practicum Experience and evaluation documents completed and submitted</td>
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ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Practicum Guide (draft) approved by the Faculty Advisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Scholarly Contribution/Independent Project identified</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Practicum guide further developed in consultation with the site preceptor and submitted to Faculty Advisor for final approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Reflective Journal #1 due</td>
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<td>Oct. 14-21</td>
<td>Midterm Evaluation Meeting (Faculty Advisor, Student, and Preceptor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>Reflective Journal #2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Scholarly contribution completed &amp; presented to Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 26 – Dec. 9</td>
<td>Final evaluation meeting (Faculty Advisor, student, and Preceptor present)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Short Summary of Practicum Experience. See Template in Moodle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Roundtable summary of practicum</td>
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*Please note that dates may be adjusted based on key practicum activities and discussion with preceptor and Faculty Advisor*

GRADING

This course is evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Students will be evaluated by the Preceptor and the Faculty Advisor based on: (a) successful completion of all course assignments; (b) completion of personal objectives and the implementation of a Learning Map with observable measures of success; and (c) completion and review of the Senior Public Health Practicum Evaluation Tool.
ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend all scheduled practicum days. The required practicum hours must be completed for successful completion of the course (see the Public Health Student Handbook). Absence can jeopardize the student’s ability to meet course objectives.

If you develop symptoms of flu-like illness during the practicum, and you have not been immunized with influenza vaccine prior to the start of the practicum, you may be excluded for a period of 7-10 days until symptoms subside and you are no longer contagious. Additionally, you may be excluded from the practice setting if you are unimmunized and there is a significant risk of exposure (e.g., 7-10 days after the last case has occurred within the setting). Notify your faculty advisor and preceptor by phone or email of your absence and expected return date. If course requirements have not been completed by the completion date, a grade of “incomplete” may be assigned until all required practicum hours and requirements have been met.

ETHICAL PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE AND CONDUCT
Public health students are expected to practice within ethical guidelines (see the Public Health Student Handbook). A breach of ethical conduct may result in failure of the practicum.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY
Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. If you have been diagnosed with a disability, there is no need to face the challenge of University without support. Please contact the Accommodated Learning Centre to set up an appointment at 403-329-2766 http://www.uleth.ca/ross/counselling/index.html. After registering with the Accommodated Learning Centre, your instructor will be notified by a formal letter of any accommodations you require. In addition, students are responsible for requesting accommodations from the instructor at least *two weeks* in advance of the evaluation date. The instructor and student are jointly responsible for arranging the resources needed for the evaluation process.

PLAGIARISM STATEMENT
The University of Lethbridge subscribes to Turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection service. Please be advised that student work submitted for credit in this course may be submitted to this system to verify its originality. Students must be able to submit both electronic and hard copy versions of their work upon request.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT
All University of Lethbridge students, faculty and staff must comply with Canadian law and institutional license agreements pertaining to copyright. At the same time, keeping abreast of our copyright obligations and options is a complex task as copyright matters locally and globally are in flux and are likely to remain so for at least the near future.

The University’s Copyright website (www.uleth.ca/copyright) is a source of current copyright information that includes:

- answers to common copyright questions (see the FAQs),
- guidance on whether you need permission or a license to copy a particular work (see the Copyright Permissions Flow Chart),
- guidance on assessing whether fair dealing may apply to specific instances of copying you wish to undertake (see the Guidelines for Copying under Fair Dealing), and
• a permissions look-up tool to help you determine the kinds of copying and other uses permitted by the Library’s license agreements covering specific online journals and other online resources.
You are encouraged to contact the University Copyright Advisor (copyright@uleth.ca) for assistance with any copyright questions or issues.

COURSE FEEDBACK FORMS
Course feedback forms for the student and the preceptor have been converted to electronic format and will be sent via email. Your feedback is important for program evaluation and is, therefore, encouraged to support the development of valuable practicum learning experiences in the future. This feedback form is required and your mark for the course will be posted once it has been submitted electronically. Students are also encouraged to remind and encourage their preceptor to complete this form.