



Department of Child and Youth Study Terms and Conditions of Practicum

Please read this document. If you have any questions, please consult with the Practicum Co-coordinator for the Department of Child and Youth Study (CYS) (CHYSPracticum@msvu.ca).

The Department of Child and Youth Study requires that students successfully complete four practicum placements to obtain a Bachelor of Arts (Child and Youth Study) degree. These are:

CHYS 2251 Practicum I

Prerequisite: CHYS 2208 or 2209 (either may be taken concurrently with CHYS 2251) and admission to the Bachelor of Arts (Child and Youth Study) Field experiences in early childhood settings in conjunction with seminars which examine these experiences in relation to theories and methods of working with young children.

CHYS 3351 Practicum II

Prerequisite: completion of 10.0 units including CHYS 2208, 2209, one of CHYS 2251/3351/4451, PSYC 2222 and admission to the Bachelor of Arts (Child and Youth Study) Field experience in settings for children and youth with diverse needs in conjunction with seminars which relate the experiences to theories and methods of working with children and youth with diverse needs.

CHYS 3352 Practicum III

Prerequisites: completion of 10.0 units including PSYC 2222, two of CHYS 2251/3351/4451 and admission to the Bachelor of Arts (Child and Youth Study). Placements in youth/adolescent settings require CHYS 3320; placements in early intervention require CHYS 3301; placements in administration require CHYS 4407. CHYS 3301, 3320 and 4407 may be taken concurrently with practicum. Field experience in a wide range of programs for children, youth and families in conjunction with seminars which examine relevant issues and the relationship between theory and practice.

CHYS 4451 Practicum IV

Prerequisites: completion of 15.0 units including CHYS 3352 and all specific prerequisites for placements as noted for CHYS 3352, and admission to the Bachelor of Arts (Child and Youth Study). This practicum provides an opportunity for students to gain experience in a wide range of services for children, youth and families related to their interests and future goals. Requirements of each placement are developed individually with the placement and supervisor.

University & Department Regulations Regarding CYS Practicum

All students must comply with the most recent CYS Department practicum guidelines and the academic standards and regulations as outlined in the CYS program description section of the MSVU Undergraduate (www.msvu.ca/ugcalendar).

Requirements for CYS Practicum (Passed by the MSVU Senate in Fall, 2014)

Practicum is restricted to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts (CYS) degree.

Practica are completed on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the fall and winter academic terms, or as four-week block placements (Monday to Friday) during Summer School.

Students may not enroll in other daytime classes on practica days.

Before any placement, students must meet the following prerequisites:

1. a 2.0 Cumulative Grade Point Average at the end of the academic semester prior to the practicum experience
2. completion of all prerequisites for the practicum for which they intend to register.

Child Abuse Register and Criminal Record Checks

In accordance with the requirements of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, all students completing a practicum are required to have a valid:

1. Child Abuse Register Certificate
2. Vulnerable Sector Check
3. Emergency First aid/CPR "C"/AED Certification.

Some placements may require further screening and immunizations or additional security clearance beyond those noted above. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that any additional requirements are completed. Students are also responsible for covering any associated costs.

If a student acquires a criminal conviction during enrolment in a practicum, he/she must immediately notify the placement host who in turn will notify the practicum coordinator.

Positive criminal record checks may effect practicum placements and employment opportunities.

It is the student's responsibility to produce these documents to their practicum placement location on the FIRST day of practicum.

Failure to produce these documents within 24 hours of the start of practicum will result in an automatic removal from your practicum placement.

Students Requiring Accommodations

If a student has a medical issue or disability which requires special accommodations, he/she must notify the Practicum Coordinator in order to determine if a potential practicum placement is able to provide the accommodations required.

Practicum Evaluation

Evaluation for successful completion of a practicum placement is based upon achievement of an acceptable standard of competence for the practicum level, completion of placement requirements, attendance at practicum meetings and seminars, and submission of all required documents/journals as noted in the *Student Practicum Handbook*.

There are three possible grades for practicum: P (Pass), NCR (No Credit, Repeat), or F (Fail). A grade of DEF (deferred) may only be assigned by the Dean of Professional Studies in exceptional circumstances. Students who fail to complete any practicum successfully will not be permitted to continue in the program.

While on a practicum placement, students are representing the CHYS program and MSVU and, therefore, must conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. Student must abide by the practicum placement's policies, procedures, guidelines and code of conduct. Students must respect the confidentiality of information related to children/youth, families, employees, and peers and agree to practice according to the Nova Scotia Early Interventionists/Child Care Association and/or Youth Care Code of Ethics for Professionals.

Please sign this document, indicating that you have read, understood and agree to the above Terms and Conditions of enrolment in a CYS practicum. Please note, that failure to comply with any of the above can result in dismissal from practicum and/or CYS program.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____