OL 280 Practicum (Co-Op Work Experience)

Course Info

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Number:</th>
<th>This course is only assigned a Summer term CRN and is given to students for registration after approval of proposal and Summer term registration begins</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Credits:</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Course Date and Class Time:</td>
<td>Students register for the course during the Summer term, but can complete the practicum hours throughout the school year (see examples below)</td>
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<td>Course Location:</td>
<td>site of practicum experience; Group Practicum Debrief on COCC campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty:</td>
<td>Supervising Instructor (check with your OL advisor for this information)</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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<td>Office Hours</td>
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Timeline options for Practicum Experiences: (examples of timelines)
If wanting to start your practicum hours the term of.....

Winter 2015
1. Proposal draft to instructor by Monday of 8th week of Fall 2014; approval of proposal by mid-week of finals week Fall 2014; complete hours and practicum group debrief Winter 2015; register for Winter credits

Spring 2015
2. Proposal draft to instructor by Monday of 8th week of Winter 2015; approval of proposal by mid-week of finals week Winter 2015; complete hours and practicum group debrief Spring; register for Spring credits

Summer 2015
3. Proposal draft to instructor by Monday of 8th week of Spring 2015; approval of proposal by mid-week of finals week Spring 2015; complete the proposal requirements and group practicum debrief Fall 2015; register for Summer credits

Course Description and Process

Description
This course is designed for students to gain professional experience in the field of Outdoor Leadership, applying conceptual understandings and practical skills gained through the recommended OL program courses (OL 111, 255, 253, 271, 273, 207, and guide based technical skills courses). This course allows students to create, with guidance, their own practicum experience based on their professional goals and plans, all the while meeting the requirements of the practicum.

Students complete 60 hours of work, which includes entirely “clocked-in” or contact time. The 60 hours does not include time spent on projects or work that is required for the position. For example, teaching a one-hour lesson of Nordic skiing is included as part of the 60 hours; planning out the lesson is
not. The 60 hours ideally are client/guest/student contact time. Each practicum is different, so it is important for proposals to be very clear in the identification of the student’s duties and how much time will be spent conducting those responsibilities. It is not unusual for students to work more than the 60 hours.

**Process**

Students submit a proposal the term prior to the term the practicum is to start. The process to getting a proposal approved is as follows: student submits proposal to supervising instructor; go through the revision process; once the instructor and student agree upon the proposal, then both sign a Special Studies form; lastly, the Department Chairperson signs the proposal. At that time, the proposal has been officially approved, and the student can start working their practicum hours as stated in their proposal. A CRN for the appropriate term will be created and given to students with approved proposals. The CRN will not be given prior, and instructor approval for registration for this course is still needed.

During the timeframe students have proposed to complete their practicum, it is expected they are keeping up with all requirements they have stated in the approved practicum proposal (eg: journal entries, weekly emails, any created paperwork, ...). Students and instructor will keep in communication on an as needed basis. Students will attend the Practicum Group Debrief at the end of the term of the practicum or the following term, depending on the completion date of the practicum (see Timeline options above). Once the practicum is completed according to the proposal and the group debrief has been attended, the student will earn a “Pass” and the two credits for the course.

**WARNING:** If you do not follow your practicum proposal as it is written and approved, then you will not earn credit for your practicum. It is important that your proposal is well thought out and developed so that students are able to fulfill the course expectations and all the components of their proposal.

**Course Expectations**

Students will identify personal learning objectives for their own practicum experience. Each practicum should work toward fulfilling the following course expectations

1. Working in the Outdoor Leadership profession
2. Complete a minimum of 60 client/participant/student contact hours
3. Application of concepts and skills learned in OL 271 and OL 273, as well as other OL courses
4. Student reflection of learning during practicum
5. Attend the Practicum Group Debrief
6. Logged hours worked and site-specific Supervisor Evaluation of student

**Assessments/Grading**

Assessment in this course is based on completion and quality of meeting the practicum proposal components and the course expectations. Once all is complete and agreed upon by student and instructor, then the student earns a “Pass” and the two credits.