



Counseling Psychology 2024-2025

What is Practicum?

Practicum is a required course that is taken in conjunction with a graduate level counseling experience in the MFT/LPCC field. Practicum is intended to be the culminating experience in Counseling Psychology and taken the last year of your academic studies. Students are given the opportunity, under professional supervision, to begin to develop and apply therapeutic skills in a clinical context. The MFT and LPCC are 90 unit programs that require 9 total units and 3 consecutive quarters (3 units each) starting in the fall quarter.

Practicum Requirement	Units	Quarter(s)
90-unit MFT, LPCC or Combined MFT/LPCC		
333 Practicum (333.1,333.2 and 333.3) Please note students need to remain in the same 333 section the entire academic year.	9 units	Fall, Winter, Spring

Required Coursework

The following classes are required before you can begin the 333 practicum course in addition to having **completed at least 63 units** by the start of the Fall practicum quarter.

200 Psychology of Interpersonal Communications
212 Psychology of Relationships
216 Psychology of Human Development
218 Foundations of Psychotherapy and Personality
219 Psychology of Group Counseling
220 Research Methods
221 Group Counseling Lab
227 Counseling Process and Skills
231 Multicultural Counseling
275 Ethical and Legal Issues
311 Psychology of Marriage and Couples Counseling (MFT)
315 Family Therapy (MFT only)
317 Therapeutic Interventions with Children (MFT)
318 Clinical Assessment I: Diagnosis
328 Clinical Assessment II: Issues in Child Diagnosis

Practicum Instruction Core Content Areas

9 Quarter Units

- Students will have a *site practicum experience* to work directly with consumers and family members of consumers of mental health services so the student can better understand mental illness, treatment, and recovery. The practicum ranges from 18-24 hours per week at a site. For the 2024-2025 practicum year, students can begin collecting hours toward their practicum on or after Monday August 26, 2024 as they are considered officially enrolled in practicum.
- **MFT:** Supervised fieldwork experience with a minimum of 225 hours of face-to-face experience counseling individuals, families, or groups. Up to 75 hours may be gained performing client-centered advocacy. SCU-CPSY requires a total time at the site for the academic year to be at least 550 hours.
- **LPCC:** Supervised fieldwork experience with a minimum of 280 hours of face-to-face clinical experience counseling individuals, families, or groups. SCU-CPSY requires a total time at the site for the academic year to be at least 550 hours.
- Mental Health Recovery-Oriented Care and Methods of Service Delivery in Recovery-Oriented Practice Environments to include:
 - assessment, diagnosis and prognosis
 - treatment planning
 - issues of development, adjustment, and maladjustment
 - health and wellness promotion
 - mental health documentation and professional writing
 - treatment of individuals, premarital, couple, family and children
 - counseling interventions
 - suicide assessment and intervention
 - application of theory and psychotherapeutic techniques
 - community resourcing
 - case management
 - cultural competency and sensitivity to include multicultural development and cross-cultural interaction
 - an understanding of how poverty and social stress impact an individual's mental health and recovery
 - disaster and trauma response
 - advocacy for the mentally ill
 - system of care both private and public for the severely mentally ill
 - collaborative treatment
 - telehealth service delivery model
 - students developing the personal qualities that are related to effective clinical practice including integrity, sensitivity, flexibility, insight, compassion and personal presence

Looking for a Practicum Site

Look through the Practicum Spreadsheet:

Select the first 8-10 sites that most interest you. List the site names below.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____

The Practicum Spreadsheet is a collection of clinical sites that contain descriptions of clinical sites throughout the Bay Area. This information should describe how each site would like to be contacted (i.e. send a resume, call to make an appointment etc.) If the information is not clear please call the site for interviewing dates and details.

Interviewing for a practicum site is like looking for a job. You will interview with various sites and eventually choose one that presents itself as the best match. You will probably be contacting the sites and conducting interviews from Winter through Spring quarter. Once you have sent your resume and set-up an interviewing schedule, continue with the next steps.

Features of Quality Supervision at a Practicum Site

Most of the sites will have some of the features listed below. Few sites will have them all. Consider this list for each site you are interviewing; it will be a helpful tool in your decision-making process.

- *One hour individual, triadic (one supervisor and two supervisees) and two hours of group clinical supervision per week.
- *Orientation program for trainees before the work begins.
- *On-going training in topic's relevant to the client/therapist relationship
(i.e. transference and counter transference, CPS reporting, etc. These training topics will vary and are made available at the discretion of the practicum site.)
- *Audio taping
- *Video taping
- *One-way mirror
- *Role Play
- *Clinical write up and presentation in individual and /or group supervision.
- *Co-therapy with licensed supervisor in individual, couple, family, and/ or group therapy.

A Checklist of Quality Supervision on Each Site

Evaluate each site that you have interviewed using the check-list below. Make separate copies of this sheet as needed.

Name of the Site _____

One hour individual supervision per week or triadic supervision.

Two hours of group supervision per week.

Orientation training for trainees before the work begins.

On-going clinical training. How often? _____

Audiotaping

Videotaping

Role Play

One-way mirror

Case presentations

Co-therapy with a licensed supervisor

Other

Practicum Paperwork

Below is an itemized list of forms you will need to fill out and return to the 333 Practicum Instructor at the first 333 class meeting. These forms can be picked-up from downloaded online.

A separate file is maintained on each practicum student enrolled in the 333 courses for the academic year. The forms required during your practicum course will be kept in this file located in Jean Riney-Niewiadomski's office. **Forms not turned in on time will result in an incomplete on the transcript for each quarter.** Once the required paperwork has been turned in the IP will be changed to a P (Pass). You will have until the middle of the following quarter to turn in the required paperwork. After that period your incomplete grade will automatically turn into an NP, No Pass.

Name of Form	Date Due	Return to Whom
333 Permission to Enroll	May 1	Jean Riney-Niewiadomski
Supervised Field Agreement	First 333 class	333 Instructor

- In addition to these forms students will need to turn in **proof of malpractice insurance and a copy of your clinical supervisors clinical license.**
- Make photocopies of the forms and keep copies in your own personal file.

Paperwork During the Practicum Course

During the practicum course the following paperwork will be required.

Name of Form	Date Due	Return to Whom
Site Supervisor's Evaluation of the Student	End of each quarter	333 Instructor
Student's Evaluation of the Site	End of each quarter	333 Instructor
BBS Weekly Log (copies only)	Summary due at end of each quarter	333 Instructor

Additional Questions can be directed to Jean Riney-Niewiadomski, Practicum Director,
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