PhD in Epidemiology
COPH 6989: Doctoral Practicum

Students will enroll in a practicum as an epidemiologist on a research team in another department at UAMS or at an appropriate agency outside of UAMS. If a suitable external practicum site is not found, then the practicum may be taken within the department. For this practicum, the student will be jointly supervised by a faculty member within the Department of Epidemiology and an appropriate public health scientist/professional at the practicum site. The Epidemiology department’s close collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Health and departments, schools and institutes within UAMS provide rich resources for students to have substantive, entrenched practice in data collection, analysis and interpretation, and experience in collaborative research during their practicum. During the practicum, students should gain experience in the following areas:

1) Taking the role as an epidemiologist on a research team.
2) Participating in the data collection on a research project.
3) Performing data analyses for a research project.
4) Providing advice to a research team regarding the design, conduct and interpretation of results from a research project.
5) Participating in the writing of grant proposals, peer-reviewed manuscripts or scientific reports.

The Practicum should, at least in part, address the following competencies:

- Formulate a scientific question of importance to public health and select and apply appropriate epidemiologic methods for addressing this question, including, but not limited to, data collection, study design, implementation, analysis, and interpretations (with recommendations);
- Professionally communicate information from epidemiologic studies in the form of scientific writing, oral presentations, and grant writing to diverse audiences, including the scientific and professional communities and the lay public;
- Demonstrate ethical behavior in teaching, research, service and practice; and
- Participate effectively in interdisciplinary research involving basic scientists, clinicians, and other relevant groups.

We recommend that students register for practicum course credits the semester that they take their comprehensive examination.
USE THIS FORM ONLY. PhD students in Epidemiology are required to enroll in 3 credit hours of Doctoral Practicum in 1 semester. A minimum of 200 contact hours (maximum 300 hours) are required for each 3 hours of credit. Grading is pass/fail.

Name: ________________________________________________ Date: __________________

Student ID Number:___________ Credit Hours: ______ Semester:___________ Year: _______

Epidemiology Faculty Advisor: ______________________________________________

Site Advisor: ______________________________________________

Title of Practicum: _______________________

THE PRACTICUM PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS FORM:

1) Title of Research Study
2) Practicum activities related to the following objectives:
   a. Taking the role as an epidemiologist on a research team.
   b. Participating in the data collection on a research project.
   c. Performing data analyses for a research project.
   d. Providing advice to a research team regarding the design, conduct and interpretation of results from a research project.
   e. Participating in the writing of grant proposals, peer-reviewed manuscripts or scientific reports.
3) Frequency of meetings with site advisor and faculty advisor
4) A timeline of activities
5) Statement of the status of IRB reviews required for the research project
   a. HIPPA Human subjects research training certificate
   b. IRB training certificate
6) Competencies to be addressed and how they will be addressed

______________________________  __________________________________________
Student Signature/ Date

SIGN AND DATE BELOW TO INDICATE APPROVAL OF THE ATTACHED PRACTICUM PLAN

______________________________  __________________________________________
Epidemiology Faculty Advisor/ Date  Epidemiology Department Chair or Designee / Date

______________________________
Site Advisor / Date

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Director of the PhD Program in Epidemiology/ Date