

Objective:

The Justice Studies Practicum program is designed to provide an extension of university learning into a justice setting. The goal of this form of learning is to develop critically reflective students who are able to assess and respond appropriately to concerns and issues encountered in the field. Students will learn about the justice system and its place in the community while developing their skills and gaining valuable experience with a host agency.

Details of the Practicum:

The Practicum has specific course objectives, outcomes and graded student requirements that will be outlined by the Faculty Instructor.

Students will spend 2 one and a half days per week over a 14 week period gaining experience in the field with a host agency.

The Instructor will schedule 4 tutorials during the semester which are designed to enhance students' learning experience through discussion and assignments. Tutorials will be scheduled on Tuesday evenings. The Instructor will advise you regarding the specific times and dates.

Participating in the practicum assists students in defining academic as well as short and long term career goals. Students will gain knowledge and experience with justice agencies that are able to offer challenging and exciting career opportunities after graduation.

The host agency will provide a mentor who will inform students about agency policy, procedures and provide guidance in the areas of professionalism and workplace ethics and skill development.

Agencies are required to complete two student evaluations. One midterm and one final evaluation which will form a percentage of the grade students receive for the practicum.

Students are responsible for completing the course requirements assigned by Justice Studies Faculty. These requirements may include written assignments, participation in discussion groups and weekly reports. (See course outline for further details).

Practicum positions are unpaid. Students may be eligible for student loans in order to pay course fees associated with the practicum.

Practicum placements are scheduled in the Fall, Winter and Spring/Summer semesters and the opportunities may be in Calgary or throughout Western Canada and the US.

Students will receive 6 credits upon successful completion of the Practicum.

Requirements:

To participate in the Practicum students must have successfully completed all course requirements for the first five academic semesters and be in their 4th year of the BA in Criminal Justice.

Attend the Practicum Orientation Sessions and satisfactorily complete the requirements set out by the Practicum Coordinator prior to going out to a host agency. The Practicum Coordinator Orientation Sessions will be supplemented with individual consultation meetings with the Practicum Coordinator.

Topics of discussion will include:

- Practicum overview and guidelines
- Review/establish career goals
- Research and discuss suitable host agencies
- Understanding expectations of host agencies

Students are required to obtain a Police Security Clearance prior to beginning their field placements. In most instances the Police Security Clearance will be at the student's expense. Please be aware that obtaining the Police Security Clearance may take as long as six weeks, do not delay in completing the criteria.

All positions that involve working with youth require that students obtain a Child Welfare Intervention Record Check, at no cost.

Justice Studies' expectation is that students who participate in the Practicum will register for up to a maximum of 3 courses in addition to the Practicum for that semester.

Register and pay fees as outline in the Mount Royal University Calendar.

Students understand that by participating in the Practicum component of their studies they will be adhering to the policies and procedures of the University, the Department of Justice Studies, and the host agency. By not adhering to all policies and procedures it can directly impact the ability of future students and relationships.

Students are required to fulfill the terms and conditions of their Practicum with the host agency.

The Faculty Instructor and the Practicum Coordinator will be available to assist and support students throughout the Practicum.

If you have any questions or would like to participate in the program, please contact the Practicum Coordinator:

Leann Acheson, BA
Practicum Coordinator
Department of Economics, Justice & Policy Studies
Mount Royal University
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Calgary, AB T3E 6K6

P. 403.440.5682
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The following information is requested from each prospective practicum student to assist the Practicum Coordinator in determining the most suitable placement for each participant.

Attach a current copy of your resume to the completed Student Inventory form.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION (Please print)

a) First Name: _____ Last name: _____

b) Student ID Number: _____

c) Current Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

d) Phone number: _____ Alternate or cell #: _____

e) MyMRU email address: _____

f) Use of Vehicle: Yes _____ No _____

g) Specify hours you are unable to be in a placement and provide reasons:

II. RECORD OF COURSE COMPLETION TO DATE

List all courses completed and presently enrolled in up to and including your fifth semester. This list should include all course for which you have received advance credit that are applicable to our program.

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Semester 3 | Semester 4 | Semester 5 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
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III. PLACEMENT DESIRED

List 3 agencies that are of interest to you. List them in order of preference. The Practicum Coordinator will make every effort to secure practicum opportunities with the agencies listed. *There is no guarantee that the agencies you select will be available to you.*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

IV. RATIONALE for desired placement (your first choice):

V. STATE YOUR CAREER GOAL and outline how you think the practicum will assist you in achieving your goal
(attach a separate sheet if required):

VI. CHECK DESIRED SEMESTER AND INDICATE WHAT YEAR

FALL _____ WINTER _____ SPRING/SUMMER _____ 20 _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

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