PSYC 371 / PSYC 372: Field Experience

Ken Bussema
Dordt College

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PSYCHOLOGY 371-372
FIELD EXPERIENCE

COORDINATOR - Dr. Ken Bussema
Phone: 712-722-6358 E-mail: Kbussema@Dordt.edu FAX: 712-722-1185

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A ‘hands-on’ practicum designed to provide a overview of the type of activities and professional services typically offered by human service agencies. The field experience placement is not intended to develop competence to the level of a beginning practitioner, but rather to observe, learn, and practice a variety of human service activities. Students will develop their interpersonal skills through direct contact with clients and have the opportunity to explore a variety of career paths and professional roles. Three hours of course credit is given for satisfactory completion of 8 hours on the site per week (120 hours total) plus participation in weekly Field Experience meetings on campus (other arrangements will be made for summer and off campus placements).

COURSE GOALS

Students will:

1. develop a clearer sense of career direction, required education to meet career goals, and of their 'goodness-of-fit' with a career in the human services.

2. demonstrate appropriate uses of self in one-to-one and/or group settings (recognize limits, respect client, communicate appropriately).

3. develop problem solving skills based on psychological understanding and an awareness of particular individuals and their environments.

4. demonstrate ability to function as part of a team to plan and coordinate services for a client.

5. develop proficiency in planning and organizing time and flow of work, completing work on time, and exercising sound judgment on completing work priorities.

6. depending on placement and responsibilities:
   a. show proficiency in administering, scoring, and interpreting assessment devices.
   b. demonstrate ability to develop Individual Program Plans (IPP).
   c. demonstrate ability to develop and/or implement a behavioral program.
   d. demonstrate skill and accuracy in data collection, record keeping, and charting.
   e. demonstrate ability to teach, model, and illustrate appropriate behavior (e.g. social skill training).
7. be challenged to address value/ethical issues in the delivery of services, to recognize personal value bases and feelings, and to begin to develop a personal and professional response to value/ethical questions.

8. test reality of and begin to apply the understanding and perspectives gained in their course work.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

A. contact the Psychology Department approximately one semester before the planned field experience to indicate their interest.

B. complete all pertinent application procedures.

C. complete an interview with the potential placement agency.

D. work with the organization and departmental supervisors in the design of objectives, projects, and schedules.

E. complete the required projects and schedules for the cooperating organization or agency.

F. report to the Psychology Department supervisor on a weekly basis.

G. complete all necessary forms, a final report, and a placement evaluation by one week before the end of the semester.

EVALUATION

The field experience will be based on a letter grade basis. Students must complete all requirements for the field experience, course grade will be based on the quality of assignments, field supervisor' evaluations, and participation in the weekly meetings.
# Dordt College Psychology Field Experience Application for Field Experience

**Application Date** _____ **Applying for which semester?** Summer  Fall  Spring  

Name ___________________________ **Student I.D. No.** ___________

(Last)   (First)   (Middle)  

**Are you willing and able to travel outside of Sioux Center?** _____  

**College Address** ______________  **College Telephone** ______________  

**Parent or Guardian** ______________  **Home Telephone** (_   _ ) ______________  

**Home Address** ______________  **Summer Address** ______________  

**Classification:** Senior   Junior   **PROGRAM MAJOR** ___________________________  

**Overall Grade Point Average** _____ **Grade Point Average in Major** _____  

What specific types of training are you looking for in the field experience?  

__________________________________________________________________________  

__________________________________________________________________________  

__________________________________________________________________________  

Rank your career goals.  

1. ___________________________  

2. ___________________________  

3. ___________________________  

4. ___________________________
List the courses in your major that you have completed or are completing:

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List the supporting courses (e.g. social work, education, communication...) that you will have completed by your junior or first semester senior year.

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(Student Signature)

Date Completed: __________

Approved: _________________    Date: ______