Master's Level Counseling Practicum/Internship

The Training Program

The University of Wisconsin - La Crosse Counseling and Testing Center is offering a year-long practicum/internship in counseling for masters-level students. The practicum is designed to provide training in a wide range of skills and assist in the development of a trainee's professional identity and interests. The practicum offers training and supervision in counseling, crisis intervention, assessment, outreach, and program development. Trainees **MUST commit to a minimum of 20 hours per week** (Thursday mornings are mandatory) on-site during the academic semester (weekly hours can be increased to comply with graduate programs that require additional weekly hours on site).

The training program emphasizes clinical and professional development, personal growth, consultation, and a collaborative approach to learning. Strengths of the training program include the quantity and quality of supervision, support from staff, and specialized training in suicide assessment and risk management. The initial stages of the practicum are highly structured to allow for the greatest support as the practicum student hones clinical skills and builds professional confidence. Our training program is developed to offer advanced clinical opportunities as the trainee develops. The Counseling and Testing Center has excellent facilities and uses electronic video as a primary training tool. All practicum students are expected to videotape their sessions.

Training Activities

- **Direct Service** — Practicum students graduate from simple to more complex cases throughout the practicum and internship. A practicum student would normally expect to carry an individual caseload, as well as observe intake sessions and the on-call urgent care services. During internship, students may also conduct intake sessions and urgent care sessions, depending upon intern skill. Co-facilitating groups and workshops is highly encouraged, based on the trainee’s experience and interests.

- **Outreach and Consultation** — The Counseling and Testing Center has developed outreach programs in the areas of depression, anxiety, alcohol education and prevention, eating disorders, and stress management. Practicum and intern students are expected to contribute to these efforts and/or develop other outreach programs based on their interests and expertise.
• **Supervision and Training** — The Counseling and Testing Center is comprised of a broad interdisciplinary staff that includes psychologists, professional counselors, and psychology post-doctoral clinicians. Most of the staff are licensed. The practicum student is assigned a primary and a secondary supervisor, but is strongly encouraged to learn from all counseling staff. Practicum students will receive one hour of individual supervision per week from a primary supervisor, one hour of individual supervision per week from a secondary supervisor, one hour of group case consultation per week, and one hour of staff training per week. Philosophically, the Counseling and Testing Center staff is highly committed to helping practicum students develop their skills in an atmosphere of trust and respect.

**Qualifications**

Applicants must complete all required courses in a graduate level program in Counselor Education, Counseling Psychology, or the equivalent. Please contact the training coordinator, Kristen Marin, if you have questions about the training site. This is a stipend-free training experience. Supervision and clinical experience are exchanged for the practicum student’s clinical work. To address any potential conflicts of interest, former CTC clients who are applying for practicum placement may not be eligible to become a trainee at CTC. Prospective practicum students must successfully complete a criminal background check prior to the start of practicum.

**Application**

Generally, the Counseling and Testing Center processes applications for counseling practicum positions during the semester preceding a placement.

Completed applications should include a letter of interest, graduate transcripts, current vita, statement of readiness from your training coordinator or department chair, and two letters of reference. Interviews will be conducted on-site until the practicum slot has been filled.

**Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Priority will be given to applications received by February 20, 2015.**

Please send applications to:

**Kristen Marin, Ph.D., LP**
Psychologist/Training Coordinator
UW-L Counseling and Testing Center
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La Crosse, WI 54601 USA
608-785-8073
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Applications may also be submitted via email to: kmarin@uwlax.edu