

# **PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING**

Colorado School of Public Health

Practice-Based Learning

# REQUIRED PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING (PBL) COURSES – MPH DEGREE

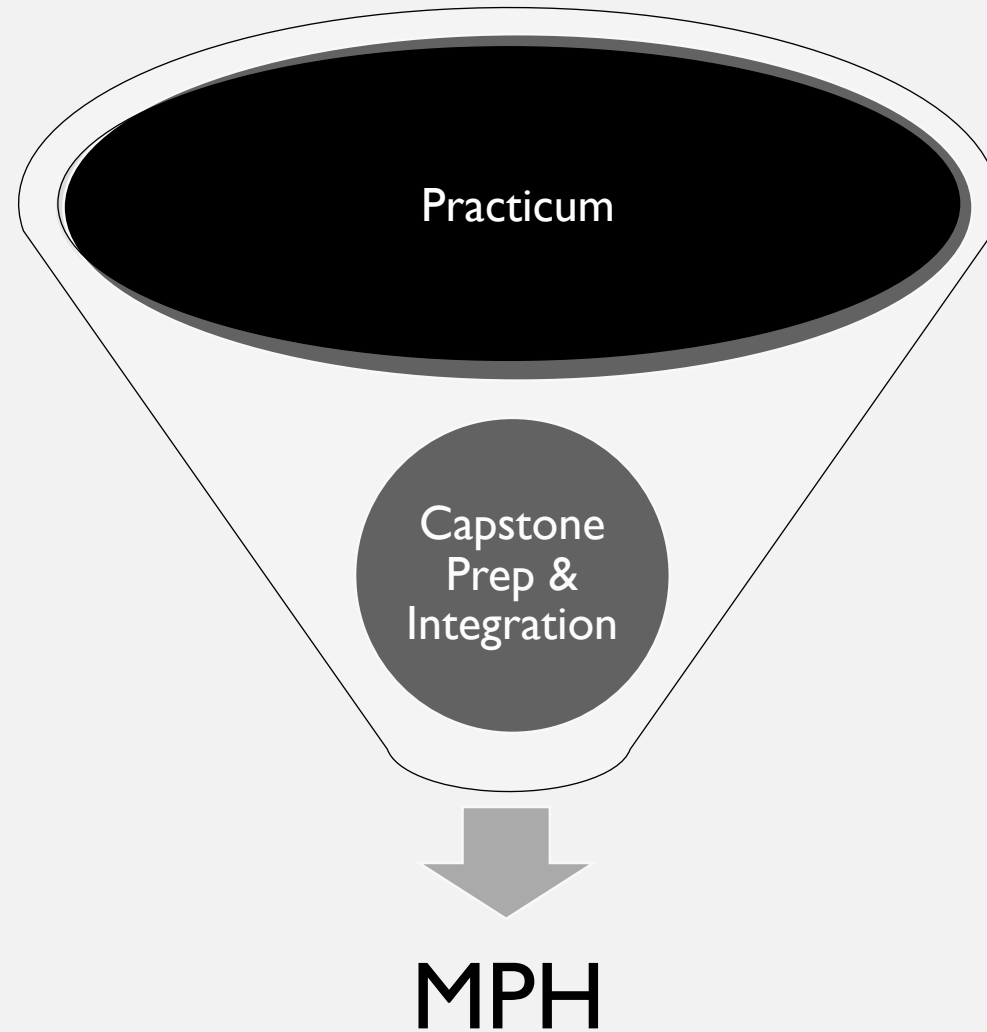
## ❖ MPH Practicum

## ❖ Capstone

- Preparation
- Integration



# PBL FUNNEL - MPH



# PRACTICUM VS CAPSTONE

## Practicum

- Internship
- Broad learning opportunity
- Assist an organization with multiple activities

## Capstone

- Final culminating project
- Focused project with defined end product/deliverable
- Independent work with support of a preceptor

\*Practicum & capstone can be related, but this is not required

\*Practicum should be completed first, or at the same time as capstone prep

# **MPH PRACTICUM**

# MPH PRACTICUM

**All MPH students** are required to successfully complete a **practicum** experience ( $\geq 120$  hours) during which the student demonstrates competencies and integrates public health knowledge.



# GOALS OF PRACTICUM

- apply classroom theory, knowledge, skills
- enhance and develop new skills
- work on a defined public health problem
- engage in professional self-assessment and personal reflection
- build a personal network of professional leaders in public health
- participate in a setting that allows the student to explore future career decisions
- engage with the community
- actively participate as a member of an interprofessional team
- connect with local and state public health agencies and other community-based organizations



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## **PREREQUISITES MPH PRACTICUM COURSE**

- Successfully complete the **Foundations of Public Health** course
- Successfully complete (B- or higher) **18 credits** including a minimum of three of the core courses (in addition to Foundations)

### **INTERNATIONAL Experiences ONLY**

- Complete EHOH 6633 Travel Course (1 credit hour; online Spring only)



## PRACTICUM SEARCH TIMING

- **Domestic**  
Semester prior to starting the practicum
- **International**  
Two semesters prior to starting the practicum
- **Competitive Internships**  
Follow their stated deadlines



# EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

- **SETTING:** hospital, state health department, local health agency, non-profit, school-based
- **TOPICS:** cancer prevention, nutrition, policy, autism
- **SKILLS:** evaluation, data analysis, program implementation
- **POPULATION:** K-12, Veterans, Refugee, Seniors, LGBTQ
- **GLOBAL Opportunities**





# HOST SITE EXAMPLES



**COLORADO**

Department of Public  
Health & Environment



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**



**World Health  
Organization**



Children's Hospital Colorado



**Greeley-Evans**  
WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 6

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# INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Students can complete the practicum anywhere in the world
- Additional university approval is required if traveling to another country
- **EHOH 6633 Travel Course** (1 credit hour; online Spring only)





# GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES

Guatemala

Kenya

Ghana

Korea

Canada

Mexico

Germany

Ecuador

Uganda

Rwanda

Switzerland

Brazil

Peru

Tanzania

Thailand

Nepal

South Africa

England



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## FINDING A PRACTICUM SITE



One stop shop for career resources

- resume/CV samples • interviewing • networking strategies • etc.

Positions are posted by

- Career Services • Preceptors & Employers

## FINDING A PRACTICUM SITE

- LinkedIn
- Advisor
- Classmate(s)
- Colleague
- Course Guest Speakers
- Community Meeting
- Networking
- Online search
- Practicum Coordinator

# OUTREACH TO PRECEPTOR/HOST SITE

- **Send an initial email inquiry**
  - Include a brief description of your interests, what you're looking for, and very basic practicum requirements
- **Call a contact or office**
  - General office line: ask to speak with someone about internship opportunities
- Arrange a time to speak about the practicum in more detail
- Provide a copy of your **resume**
- **Dress appropriately**
- Connect with a preceptor on LinkedIn





# STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Take ownership of your proposed activities through development, planning, implementation and completion
- Communicate your goals, timelines and any necessary details with your preceptor and practicum instructor
- Meet all deadlines and plan accordingly
- Conduct yourself in a professional manner at all times



# PRECEPTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide mentoring and guidance throughout the project
- Work with you to provide support needed to complete the activities—access to data, introductions to other professionals, facilitate discussions, provide direction
- Provide feedback throughout practicum and at the midpoint and final evaluation



# MPH PRACTICUM COURSE

- 120 hour minimum public health experience which must take place in:
  - a governmental, non-governmental, non-profit, industrial, or for-profit setting
- $\geq 6$  hours interprofessional education (IPE)\*
- The experience must allow the student to demonstrate attainment of five competencies, three of which must be CEPH foundational competencies
- The MPH Practicum must be mutually beneficial to both the student and the host site



\*Interprofessional education (IPE) occurs when people from two or more professions learn about, from, and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes. This refers to engagement with professionals outside of public health (e.g. architects, nurses) rather than to engagement with individuals from other public health disciplines (e.g. biostatisticians, health promotion specialists)

**PRACTICUM COURSE DETAILS**  
**CU ANSCHUTZ CAMPUS**

# MPH PRACTICUM COURSE CU ANSCHUTZ

- MPH Practicum course at CU Anschutz is PUBH 6606
- **The practicum course is a restricted access course:** to receive a code to register, you must submit your completed Practicum Proposal packet to [ColoradoSPH.Practicum@CUAnschutz.edu](mailto:ColoradoSPH.Practicum@CUAnschutz.edu)
- 2 credit – Pass/Fail Course
- Online Canvas Course Component with various assignments including:
  - Logbooks
  - Reflections
  - Midpoint check-in
  - Final summary and product portfolio
  - IPE Agreement
  - Final evaluations (student and preceptor)

# PRACTICUM PROPOSAL PACKET DUE PRIOR TO COURSE ENROLLMENT

The Practicum Proposal Packet consists of:

Deadlines

Sp 22: Jan 10, 2022

Sum 22: May 16, 2022

- **Resume**
- **2 CITI Course Completion Certificates:** HIPAA and Human Subjects
- **Learning Plan**
  - **Placement Agreement** to be completed with Preceptor
  - **COVID-19 Form** (Preceptor and Student)
  - **Approval and signatures** Required (Preceptor, Academic Advisor, Student)

**Final approval** received upon submission of proposal packet; course registration code given once approved

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# **SAMPLE LEARNING PLAN TABLE**

# Foundational Competency: #19 - Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation

Activity(ies)	Product(s)	<b>Prep/Steps</b> (How am I prepared to do this work? Do I already possess the necessary skills? Will I be trained during my practicum?)	Approval (initials/sign off)
Develop an infographic on smoking and mental health and present information at a staff meeting	<p>Infographic using the findings from my data analyses of community health survey data and focus group data to inform the content</p> <p>Creation and dissemination of information during a monthly staff meeting. The infographic will be presented along with a summary of the findings of my data analyses during an all staff meeting</p>	<p>Review already developed infographics to familiarize myself with ways to organize and communicate information to the target audience. I have experience using online infographic tools such as Piktochart. Additionally, there several step-by-step videos that I can watch to familiarize myself with online tools if necessary.</p> <p>I will also be working with the communications and marketing team who will have expertise and strategies to best display the information for the intended audience, they may already have a template or suggested tool I can use to create the infographic.</p>	<p><b>Initial approval</b> (prior to practicum start)</p> <p>Preceptor _____</p> <p>Advisor _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Midpoint progress check</b> (at the completion of 60 practicum hours)</p> <p>Preceptor _____</p> <p>Student _____</p> <p>If this activity or product was modified at the midpoint, please describe the changes here:</p>

Note: if materials generated for host site were insufficient to meet portfolio requirements, the advisor may assign additional products for the student to demonstrate competency attainment.



**TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PRACTICUM COURSE YOU MUST:**

- ☐ Attend a Practicum Information Session and/or meet with Practicum Coordinator(s) to discuss the practicum experience and requirements (this must be done before you meet with host sites/preceptors)
- ☐ Meet with Host Site and Preceptor to determine and define practicum experience (see practicum requirements on the next page)
- ☐ Provide a description of the interprofessional experience (IPE)\* or a plan that allows the student to complete the required IPE experience during their practicum (provided in the Placement Agreement)
- ☐ Provide Preceptor a copy of your resume, the Preceptor Information Packet and completed Practicum Proposal
- ☐ Complete Learning Plan (Sections 1-5)
- ☐ Complete Placement Agreement with your Preceptor
- ☐ Obtain appropriate signatures (Faculty Advisor, Preceptor and Student)
  - ☐ Including Section 5 of the Learning Plan which requires your advisor/preceptor to sign off on the activities/products you plan to complete
- ☐ Provide Preceptor and Faculty Advisor a final copy of this packet including signatures
- ☐ Keep a copy of this packet including signatures
- ☐ Complete online HIPAA and Human Subjects Research CITI courses (see page 14), save a copy of your certificates (or a screen shot of completion page) for submission with you final proposal
- ☐ Include an updated copy of your resume with your final proposal
- ☐ Submit completed Practicum Proposal, CITI certificates and resume to: [ColoradoSPH.Practicum@ucdenver.edu](mailto:ColoradoSPH.Practicum@ucdenver.edu)
- ☐ Receive registration code from the Practicum Coordinator and register online for PUBH 6606 MPH Practicum Course (you will receive the code via email after your proposal has been reviewed and approved)

COVID-19 Form  
with required  
signatures

# **RESOURCES**



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## Practicum & Capstone

### COVID-19 update

- All practicum and capstone students must complete the [COVID-19 form \(updated 7.15.21\)](#). Preceptor signature required.
- [MPH practicum proposal/learning plan \(updated 7.26.21\)](#).

## Information for students

### **MPH practicum and capstone: ColoradoSPH at CSU**

Please contact your assigned faculty advisor and view instructions by logging into the [CSU Canvas](#) Pre-Practicum or Pre-Capstone websites

### **MPH practicum and capstone: ColoradoSPH at UNC**

Please contact [Dr. Teresa Sharp](#) for practicum and capstone information.

### **MPH practicum: ColoradoSPH at CU Anschutz**

## **MPH practicum: ColoradoSPH at CU Anschutz**

**Eligibility for the practicum course**



**Registering for the practicum course**



**Proposal deadlines**



**Identifying practicum opportunities**



**Requirements for international experiences**



**Resources**



**Campus contacts**



coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/practicum-capstone#ac-identifying-practicum-opportunities-3



## Identifying practicum opportunities

Identify practicum opportunities by:

- Visiting [Handshake](#)
- Talking with your faculty advisor and instructors
- Connect with staff in the [Office of Admissions & Student Affairs](#)
- Get a referral from a student or alum
- Browse community, state, and national internship resources
- Please see a list of domestic and global opportunities below:
  - [Domestic Practicum Sites](#)
  - [Global Practicum Sites](#)



## Resources

Practicum resources for students:

- [MPH practicum student guidelines](#)
- [MPH practicum proposal and learning plan \(updated 7.26.21\)](#)
- [COVID-19 form \(updated 7.15.21\)](#)
- [Competencies](#)
- [Global education requirements](#)
- [MPH practicum info session](#)

# CONTACT THE CU ANSCHUTZ PBL TEAM

[ColoradoSPH.Practicum@CUAnschutz.edu](mailto:ColoradoSPH.Practicum@CUAnschutz.edu)



Lauren Boissy, MPH  
Sr. Practicum and Career Services Professional  
Email: [Lauren.Boissy@CUAnschutz.edu](mailto:Lauren.Boissy@CUAnschutz.edu)

Interested in scheduling an  
appointment to discuss practicum?  
Log-in to your CU Anschutz  
Handshake account!



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**QUESTIONS?**