

National Taiwan Normal University
Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling
Course Implementation Essentials: Master's Full-Time "Internship in Counseling Psychology"

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Toward the implementation of the full-year and full-time "Internship in Counseling Psychology (I), (II)" course for third-year master's degree students in the Counseling Psychology division, the department delineates the core essentials of the course in accordance with the "Enforcement Rules of the Psychologist Act," which serves as the basis to guide student selection of placement agency and performance evaluation in internship.

- I. Prior to engaging in full-time professional counseling internship, graduate students in counseling psychology must have completed at least 21 credit hours of courses in the counseling psychology curriculum (including part-time counseling practicum). In principle, professional internship is full-time with a one-year duration in which students accrue at least 32 hours a week or at least 1,500 total hours from internship training. Students enrolled in Professional Counseling Internship and the internship placement agency can only enter a contract after their application for the internship placement year is approved by the instructor of the course. Internship activities can only take place during the designated period, and student interns are obligated to attend on-campus class and receive faculty instruction regularly. If special circumstances necessitate students to change their internship placement agency, the change must be approved and consented by both the course instructor and the initial internship placement agency. As a general principle, only one such change of internship placement agency is allowed.
- II. Full-time professional counseling internship must include the following training components:
 - a. Individual, marital or family counseling and psychotherapy;
 - b. Group counseling and psychotherapy;
 - c. Individual evaluation and psychological assessment;
 - d. Psychological consultation, mental health education, and promotion of prevention;
 - e. Professional administration of counseling psychology organization or unit;
 - f. Other electives related to counseling psychology, including psychological counseling and psychotherapy for neurosis, crisis management or case management, and so forth.

- g. Full-time professional counseling interns engage in II.a, II.b. and II.c. training for at least 360 hours a year, or an average of 7 hours a week.
- III. Full-time professional counseling internship placement agencies include: University and college counseling (guidance) center (department, office, division); teaching hospital and other internship agencies designated by the Department of Health; “Other agencies designated by the Department of Health” refer to the following units, and that meet the “established standards for psychotherapy” or “established standards for psychological counseling” conditions:
 - a. Department of Health county and city community psychological health centers;
 - b. Agencies and schools with service units that provide psychological counseling or psychotherapy to staff, teachers, or students;
 - c. Business units that, in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act, establish health and treatment unit that provides psychotherapy or counseling services;
 - d. Foundations with agency director’s permission to establish affiliated service unit that provides psychological counseling or psychotherapy;
 - e. Prisons, drug abuser treatment centers, and detoxification centers affiliated with the Ministry of Justice;
 - f. Medical facilities that operate internship training for psychological counseling with the approval of teaching hospitals;
 - g. Counseling psychologist practice agencies designated by the central director department.
- IV. The internship placement agency should provide mental health and related services. Internship practice guidelines or training scheme should be available in writing or in a handbook. At the minimum, the internship placement agency should be equipped to provide rooms for individual counseling and group counseling, and a personal desk for the full-time intern.
- V. The internship placement agency should hire at least one staff who is a qualified counseling psychologist. The staff psychologist and full-time intern ratio should not exceed 1:2. Each staff supervisor at the internship placement agency can supervise at the maximum 2 full-time interns a week. Qualifications to conduct clinical supervision should be approved by both the internship placement agency and the department course instructor at the year of application.
- VI. The internship placement agency should delegate or hire a staff to provide supervision and vocational training for the full-time interns. The supervisor should possess a counseling psychologist license with at least two years of post-licensure clinical experience, and the qualifications should be approved by the Department course instructor at the year of application.
- VII. The internship placement agency agrees to provide the counseling psychology intern at least 1,500 total hours a year of internship training experience. At least 360 of the total hours entail direct case service, 150 hours entail supervision and education and training,

and 100 hours entail other professional services relevant to internship. Interns should engage in, on average, no more than 40 hours a week of work.

- VIII. The internship placement agency should assign an appropriate occupational title (e.g., intern psychologist) to the student trainee, provide audio or video recording equipment, and supply a desk, a chair, and other necessary office furniture. Priority will be given to agencies that can offer a monetary stipend or related benefits (e.g., shuttle service, meals, lodging) to interns.
- IX. The internship placement agency should provide interns with the following supervision and vocational training. The hour breakdown follows:
 - a. At least one hour of weekly supervision, or 50 hours for the whole year. If the intern provides group counseling, family therapy, or psychological testing and assessment services, then provide corresponding supervision hour time according to the intern's needs.
 - b. In general, provide two hours a week, or 100 hours a year, of group supervision, case study discussion, special topic workshop, or other professional training activities (including administrative meetings).
- X. The internship placement agency agrees to grant interns 8 hours a week to work on dissertation or research and to attend class at the university.
- XI. The practice of counselor supervision should adhere to the following Department guidelines:
 - a. All supervision matters related to undergraduate, master's, and doctoral counseling practicum must be coordinated with department's curriculum planning that takes place in the second semester of each academic year. In the subsequent academic year, doctoral courses in "Counseling Supervision and Practicum (I), (II)" and "Advanced Internship in Counseling Psychology (I), (II)" must align with master's courses in "Practicum in Counseling Psychology (I), (II)" and "Internship in Counseling Psychology (I), (II)," as well as align with undergraduate courses in "Teaching Practicum: Guidance (I), (II)," "Teaching Practice in Career Planning," "Educational Service Learning in Career Planning," and "Practicum of School Counseling (I), (II)." Instructors of counseling practicum courses across the degree levels must convene and coordinate course offering and course alignment matters in advance.
 - b. Supervisees (undergraduate and master's students under the supervision of doctoral students) must provide feedback about supervision (to doctoral students).