Practicum FAQs

(Frequently Asked Questions)

Current/Prospective 394 Students:

Do I need to have a practicum site before I can enroll in the class?

-No, you may enroll in the internship course as soon as you have met the prerequisites and attend a mandatory Fieldwork Information session up to 1 year prior to attending the first day of the class.

I registered for the lecture part of CAS 394 but I could not find a matching CAS 394L lab part, can I register for a different section?

-No, you must register/enroll in a lecture section that matches/corresponds to the lab section (the section number is typically a two digit number, i.e. 01, 04, 08, etc.). Contact the CAS Department in EC 503 if you are not able to register for the corresponding section number and only the lecture or the lab is open.

Are there are prerequisites required to enroll in the 394 internship class?

-Yes, the prerequisites are CAS 101 and 201. The recommended sequence requires that you complete CAS 101, 201, 300, & 301. Ideally take CAS 394 with CAS 325A or 325B which is the correct course order. Also attend or complete on-line the Fieldwork Information Session prior to the first day of your practicum course.

My prospective site is unsure of having students at their site. Is there a form or letter that explains the Practicum course for CHAD majors?
Yes, request a Practicum Site letter from either your Practicum Instructor or the Fieldwork Coordinator from the CAS office. You can also request this letter via the e-mail listed below.

**Does every student receive a Community Engagement Medal from the CICE office?**

-No, there are specific requirements to earn this medal for graduation. You will be required to complete additional practicum hours and apply for the medal. View the requirements and deadlines on the CICE website.

**I am considering a Short-term Study Abroad Practicum, do I have to take the Introductory or Advanced course to study abroad?**

-No, the short term study abroad practicum can be for either the Introductory or the Advanced practicum. Attend an Information Session to obtain all the details.

**Is it possible to use a prior practicum course or hours for credit towards the 394 requirement?**

-Yes, if you completed an Early Childhood Practicum at the Community College with a “C” or better AND you are following the ECD option then you may not need to take CAS 394/394L. See a Major Advisor in the CAS Department.

-No, for all other students who are required to take CAS 394/394L you cannot use any previous practicum course or hours. You must complete the practicum course and 60 hours at the same time.

**I did not pass my practicum lecture or I did not complete the 60 hours that are required for the lab so will I need to repeat both the lecture and lab?**

-Yes you must repeat both the lecture and the lab. You must take a new course and complete a new set of 60 hours.

**If my practicum site supervisor completes my final evaluation and issues me a “Below Satisfactory” do I need to retake the course?**

-Yes you must repeat both the lecture and the lab. You must take a new course and complete a new set of 60 hours.

**Can I do an internship in the summer and take the course in the fall?**
-No, you must complete both the course lecture and 60 hours lab at the same time. Practicum courses are offered in Summer and are 5 weeks in length which means that students must complete approximately 12-13 hours per week to complete the required 60 hours.

**What if I receive a Practicum site offer that is really what I wanted to accept, but I have already accepted another site’s offer?**

- Learning is the primary goal of the practicum so challenge yourself to try something new. It is expected that you be honest and let the site know as soon as possible if you are not able to do your hours at their site. Contacting them in person and following up with a gracious e-mail thanking them for their time is really important.

**What happens if the internship I found through my own research doesn’t get approved by CICE?**

- You are required to find a site that is approved by and currently on the CICE database. If you find another site but it does not get approved in advance of you taking the course then you will NOT be able to use that site. You should discuss with CICE about the prospective site as early as possible so that you have the best chance of having the site approved. If you become employed by the non-registered site then you might be able to use the site once you follow the Use Your Employment Site steps.

**Why do I have to have a supervisor observing me at my practicum and why do I have to arrange a weekly supervision meeting?**

- As a non-employed student at a Practicum Site it is critical to receive supervision to assist in the learning process as well as to insure that you are providing appropriate services to the clients/students. There are also many other liability factors that are related to working with minors.

**Current/Prospective Advanced Practicum Students** (also read the FAQ’s for the Introductory Practicum for general information)

**Which Advanced Practicum should I register for?**

- The Advanced Practicum corresponds to the option you are following. For example, The ECD option you would take CAS 464/464L, the ESS option you would take CAS 474/474L, the AYD option you would take CAS 494/494L and the FCC option you would take CAS 494/494L. There is also a CAS 454/454L-T-K/K and is appropriate for the ECD or ESS option. View the Practicum Registration Approval Process link to see the details of what types of sites and supervisor qualify for each option.

**Do I need to attend or view on-line the mandatory Fieldwork Information Session (FIS) prior to the Advanced Practicum?**
- No, you only need to attend one time. If you did not attend a FIS prior to your Introductory Practicum then you should attend one prior to the Advanced Practicum.

**What if I am following one option but I have made a career shift do I need to take the required Advanced Practicum or can I change?**

- Yes you can take any Advanced Practicum that matches your new career focus but you will need to meet with a Major Advisor to have the Advanced practicum you have selected substituted for the one you were required to enroll in.

**Can I list my practicum experiences on my resume?**

- Yes you can list your practicum/fieldwork experiences on your resume as they are legitimate resume building experiences.

**Questions?** [chadfieldwork@fullerton.edu](mailto:chadfieldwork@fullerton.edu)