FAM 4860 Practicum (Family Life Education – NCFR Approved)

Field experiences must be documented in a minimum of 120 hours of direct contact focusing on family life education practice. This is typically met by a 3-credit course called Practicum (FAM 4860).

The Practicum experience is in addition to academic preparation centering on adult education methods and program development. Thus, it is addressed as separate from Content Area #10. The practicum should focus on family life education and prevention rather than therapy, counseling, social work, early childhood education, etc.

**NCFR Guidelines for Practicum Setting**

Students must complete the practicum experience in a setting that will allow for family life education practice which must include the opportunity to work with families to provide family life education services. For example, if a practicum setting is a school, residential treatment facility, preschool, etc., there must be substantial opportunities to work with families in some way (e.g., parenting education, family meetings, workshops & classes with families, etc.). For example, only working with children (to the exclusion of other family members) will not qualify as an approved practicum experience.

You may do your practicum experience at your place of employment if this site provides opportunities to engage in family life education activities as part of your practicum experience.

**Process for receiving approval of practicum placement site**

Many practicum settings clearly provide opportunities to engage in family life education activities (e.g., Family Support Center, Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Program, USU Extension in Family and Consumer Sciences, etc.). Please send an email to Dr. Schvaneveldt with questions.

Other settings are less clear and require approval prior to starting your practicum experience (e.g., residential treatment centers, health care settings, early childhood settings). In these cases, the student is required to write a 1-page proposal that includes the following information:

1. Name of the proposed practicum setting
2. Description of typical activities at the practicum setting
3. Specific family life education activities you will do over the semester

This 1-page proposal will be shared with the Family Studies faculty for review and approval. This proposal is due 7-days prior to the start of the semester.

All practicum placements and activities must be approved by Dr. Paul Schvaneveldt ([pschvaneveldt@weber.edu](mailto:pschvaneveldt@weber.edu))

CHF 4860 Learning Objectives

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| **Learning Objectives** | **Measures** |
| Completion of 120 hours of service experience working and/or volunteering at an approved community agency (per NCFR Guidelines). | Completion of 120 Hours as verified by practicum supervisor. Evaluation of practicum experiences by practicum supervisor |
| A knowledge of and ability to effectively apply necessary skills for a Family Life Educator with adult clientele. | Evaluation of practicum experiences by practicum supervisor. Family Life Education Application Papers. Reflection papers. |
| Ability to create and execute learning environments that are effective and respectful of diverse contexts and learning styles. | Evaluation of practicum experiences by practicum supervisor.  Family Life Education Application Papers.  Professionalism Paper  Networking Paper  Reflection papers. |
| A knowledge of and ability to work within the policies/procedures and ethical guidelines of an agency. | Evaluation of practicum experiences by practicum supervisor. Family Life Education Application Papers. Professionalism Paper. Networking Paper. Ethics in theory and practice papers. Reflection Papers |