

Doctoral Practicum

The doctoral practicum is designed to complement the coursework of the PhD in Clinical Counseling: Teaching and Supervision. Students required to complete a practicum are required to complete six academic hours. Generally the doctoral practicum is a two semester experience (three academic hours each semester) but can be completed in three semesters (two academic hours each semester). There is a minimum requirement of 600 hours of practicum (300 hours each semester if completed in two semesters; 200 hours each semester if completed over three semesters). Of the 600 hours of practicum, 200 hours must be direct service hours.

Direct service hours involve any face-to-face contact with a client or clients that involve counseling individuals, couples, families, or groups. It also includes reviewing a treatment plan with a client or administering a test/assessment to a client. One must be providing services directly to the client to be considered direct service hours.

Indirect service hours involve writing case notes, reading case records, participating in a client case/team conference, reading articles or listening to CDs/DVDs related to your client population, attending a seminar or workshop, writing a report based on a test or assessment of a client, staff or clinical meetings and supervision hours.

Doctoral students who are licensed mental health professionals (permanent license not a temporary license) and have been licensed by a state board for one (1) or more years from the date the doctoral practicum officially begins may elect to pursue coursework in lieu of the doctoral practicum. Note this is an option for additional coursework and not the elimination of hours from the program.

The doctoral practicum may be completed at agencies and organizations where students are employed and receive remuneration for their labor. This also includes those students who are already licensed and working in a private practice. Students who are not licensed and/or practicing under a temporary license as they pursue the hours of experience required by the state must be supervised (ideally, weekly supervision) by a properly licensed or credentialed supervisor depending upon the student's licensure interest. This is in addition to a Trevecca supervisor who will be assigned to each practicum student. The "on-site" supervisor provides case supervision. The Trevecca supervisor provides skill supervision. Students who are already licensed (regardless of the number of years of licensure) are also required to secure an "on-site" supervisor for case supervision. This supervision should involve at a minimum two hours of supervision per month.