

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
Faculty Teaching Certificate Program
Capstone Project

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Course Redesign: CSP 687 Internship II – College Student Affairs

During the second year of the Counseling and Student Personnel (CSP), College Student Affairs track, students are required to obtain a supervised clinical Practicum experience in College Student Affairs. This experience is in addition to their current Graduate Assistantship. The Practicum experience involves a minimum of 100 hours of supervised work with 40 of the hours consisting of direct client contact. This experience provides students the opportunity to continue to develop:

- Individual and group counseling skills while under supervision,
- Professional activities that members of a student affairs staff are expected to perform, and
- An understanding of the overall operation of a student affairs office.

Students will continue to develop their professional, clinical skills and ethical judgment standards during their Internship I and II experiences that follow Practicum. During the Internship experience students evolve into professional student affairs employees. Internship and Practicum experiences provide students the onsite location to integrate theory into professional practice. Internship I and II will be a minimum of 600 hours of supervised experience across two sites, with 240 of these hours in direct client contact. CSP an accredited program by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and related Educational Programs (CACREP). This accreditation indicates that CSP meets national standards in eight core areas of counseling: human growth and development, social/cultural foundations, the helping relationship, group dynamics/counseling, career development, appraisal, research, and professional orientation/issues. The Practicum/Internship requirements fulfill CACREP Standards for CSP students.

In addition to the supervised clinical experience, students enroll in a one-credit course for each of the experiences (Practicum – CSP 685, Internship I – CSP 686, Internship II, CSP 687). CSP 687 Internship II in College Student Affairs is designed to:

- Further integrate theory and practice in the field of College Student Affairs,
- Support students' professional identity development,
- Provide a framework to develop professional ethics and ways of being,
- Familiarize students with current issues and trends in the field, and
- Explore in greater depth the professional roles and responsibilities of student affairs practitioners.

CSP 687 Internship II is the course that I redesigned course assignments to enhance the learning and development of students. Below is a brief overview of previous and redesigned course assignments. The redesign was based in students' current needs and skill sets. In addition, the readings and blog postings provided students with the opportunity to engage in dialogue concerning difficult topics with student affairs professionals across the United States. The redesigned assignments are shared with students' colleagues rather than only with the faculty of the course. This provides all with the opportunity to engage and learn from each other's reflections, interpretations, and experiences. This parallels the work-site experiences students will have next year in their first student affairs position.

| Previous Method of Instruction | Redesigned Method of Instruction |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Issues Paper: Students lead discussion on a current issue in higher education from The Chronicle of Higher Education. • Job Search Assignment: Identify an advertised position in higher education of interest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop cover letter and resume for the position. ○ Participate in a mock interview for the position. ○ Topic Presentation – each class member will be given a topic for a 15 minute in-class presentation for a mock, on-campus interview. • Professional Development Report: Write a report documenting your accomplishments over the course of your internship experience and how you fulfilled your goals and objectives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Text and Blog: <i>Contested Issues in Student Affairs: Diverse Perspectives and Respectful Dialogue</i>, Edited by Peter M. Magolda and Marcia B. Baster Magolda - http://contestedissues.wordpress.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expert contributors to the text address 24 critical issues in higher education. Class discussions on the readings provided students the opportunity to expand, explore, and test what they know. ○ Each week students contribute to the online blog discussing the issues with student affairs professionals across the nation. • Job Search Assignment: Mock on-campus interview, 20-25 minutes utilizing PowerPoint presentation with handout. • Final Reflection: In-class oral reflection of their experiences in CSP/CSA track. Following 15-20 minute uninterrupted reflections from each student, the class will discussion common themes, experiences, and learning opportunities that have been shared throughout the two years together. |

Assessment

I will assess students' understanding and response to course redesign on the final meeting date. In addition to the standard course evaluation, students will complete the following reflection questions:

1. What are your thoughts and reflections regarding the text used for CSP 687 - *Contested Issues in Student Affairs: Diverse Perspectives and Respectful Dialogue*, Edited by Peter M. Magolda and Marcia B. Baster Magolda? Did the blog positing assignment enhance your understanding of the critical issues presented in the text and discussed in class? If so, how? If not, what would have been helpful?
2. Reflect on the mock on-campus presentation, did you find this exercise useful as you prepare for on-campus interviews? In what ways did this exercise assist you in preparing for on-campus interviews? What did you learn about yourself from this experience?
3. What did you find most insightful in the final reflection exercise? What did you find most surprising about the final reflection exercise? What did you learn about yourself from this exercise?