UNIVERSITY OF UTAH COLLEGE OF NURSING

Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program

COURSE NUMBER: GERON5990/6990-090
TITLE: Gerontology Practicum
PREREQUISITE: Complete at least one Gerontology course prior to practicum.
TOTAL CREDITS: 3
DIDACTIC CREDITS: 0
CLINICAL CREDITS: 1-3 (clinical hours minimum) – (i.e. 1 hr crdt = 4 hrs clncl/wk)
ACADEMIC TERM(S) OFFERED: Fall, Spring and Summer Semesters
FACULTY: Michael Caserta, PhD
5175 College of Nursing
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Field experience within the aging network including opportunities for program or service administration, implementation, and/or research and evaluation.

DIDACTIC OBJECTIVES:
The student will:
1. Practice ethical principles to guide work with and on behalf of older persons.
2. Employ, design, or evaluate programmatic and community development with and on behalf of the aging population.
3. Foster professional relationships.
4. Articulate the role of gerontologists across professional settings.
5. Evaluate professional settings.
6. Demonstrate professional skills suitable for employment as a gerontologist.

TEACHING METHODS:
Discussions, assigned readings, field work with preceptor experiences.

EVALUATION:
Evaluation includes the quality and depth of participation in discussions, assigned exercises, along with preceptor’s assessment of the student performance at their practicum site. On line attendance is gauged by CANVAS analytics, where individual student participation is assessed through such means as participation in discussion boards and accessing CANVAS modules. Dismissal from a course and/or the college can result from unprofessional behavior.

TOPICAL OUTLINE:
1. Setting goals and objectives for practicum
2. Leadership style inventory
3. Assessment and evaluation of practicum sites
REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: There is no required textbook; however, you are required to purchase the Gallup Strengths Finder at https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/?gclid=Cj0KEQiAsZayBRCrioKRkYctve0BEiQAI70-A1Y-9u4Gn1LYoHirOax673QmgG8mJv2xb_WowOv6-GsaAg6F8P8HAQ to complete the leadership skill quiz ($15).

LATE ASSIGNMENT/MISSED ASSIGNMENTS POLICY:

Late assignments will be accepted if the student has notified the instructor of this request prior to the due date. Please note your practicum grade cannot be assigned until the practicum log, preceptor and student evaluations are uploaded to the assignments in the course.

PLAGIARISM POLICY:

Refer to UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS- Chapter X - CODE OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (“STUDENT CODE”) Section I.B.2.” “Plagiarism” means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person’s work in, or as the basis for, one’s own work offered for academic consideration or credit, or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one’s own, without attribution, any other individual’s words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression. While students may not realize they are plagiarizing, the consequences may be significant and may affect program progression. The complete University of Utah Code of Student Rights can be found on the University web site, at http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php. The complete College of Nursing Handbook can be found on the College of Nursing website, at http://nursing.utah.edu/pdfs/dnphandbook.pdf. It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with these documents.

SYLLABUS CHANGES:

This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced and posted on Canvas under Announcements.

ONLINE GUIDELINES:

There are unique responsibilities that come with taking an online course.

Electronic or equipment failure: It is your responsibility to maintain your computer and other equipment needed to participate in online forums. Equipment failures are not an acceptable excuse for late or absent assignments, quizzes, or exams.

Computer literacy: You will need to gain access to a computer and to the Internet at least three (3) times per week, as well as to MS Word®, & PowerPoint®. It is assumed that you have a basic knowledge of computers, including but not limited
to how to navigate the Internet, attach a document to an email and send the email with the attachment, and use basic software packages (e.g. MS Word®).

Assignment archiving: To prevent problems involving corrupt or lost files, each assignment should be saved in at least two places (e.g. on hard and flash drive; and on drive or as attachment to an email message you send to yourself). Each student is responsible for making sure assignments (including attachments) are submitted before the deadline, via the Assignment Dropbox, using the requested software in the required version, with the required extension. This generally means a MS Word® (.doc or .docx) or MS PowerPoint® (.ppt or .pptx) files.

Naming files for submission: When submitting individual assignments, name files with your last name followed by an underscore and the assignment name (e.g., Harrison_endnote1.docx). Do not put spaces in the file names as Canvas inserts a %20 where the space is and may lead to assignment confusion.

Classroom equivalency: Discussion threads, e-mails, and chat rooms are all considered to be equivalent to classrooms, and student behavior within those environments shall conform to the Student Code. Specifically:

- Posting photos or comments that would be off-topic in a classroom are still off-topic in a discussion thread.
- Off-color language is never appropriate.
- Using angry or abusive language is called “flaming”, is not acceptable, and will be dealt with according to the Student Code.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles, since it is the equivalent of shouting online, as is overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points !!!! and question marks ?????.
- E-mail, e-journals, and other online communications in the course are part of the classroom and as such, are University property and subject to GRAMA regulations and the Student Code. Privacy regarding these communications between correspondents must not be assumed and should be mutually agreed upon in advance, in writing.
- Instructors are required to respond to e-mails in a “reasonable” amount of time. If you have not received a reply to an email communication within 3 business days (Monday through Friday), please contact the instructor again - emails occasionally do not reach the intended recipient.

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE:

- Email communication is the official communication medium of the University. Faculty will respond to your email correspondence within 3 business days (i.e. Monday through Friday) and expect that students will respond to faculty email correspondence in the same time frame. Please re-send your email and/or contact faculty by phone if you do receive a response to your email within these parameters.
- Faculty expects that students will check their Canvas email at least three (3) times per week.
- Students can email faculty through our Canvas email.
- Electronic communication etiquette includes respectfully addressing the recipient of the email and use of appropriate font (use of all caps, all bolded, or all italicized font is equivalent to yelling or ‘flaming’ and is unacceptable). Please write out all words. The use of acronyms may lead to misinterpretation. If you are uncertain of your electronic communication, please speak directly with us.

FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Your faculty will:

- Treat students with respect
- Inform students at beginning of class of general content, course activities, evaluation methods, grading, and schedule
- Convene scheduled classes unless valid reason and notice are given to students
- Respond to email correspondence and phone calls in a timely manner*
- Perform high quality, constructive evaluations of written work and exams
- Return evaluations in a timely manner
- Make every effort to ensure an environment that is conducive to learning
- Enforce student code
ADA – Nondiscrimination and Disability Access Statement:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. Reasonable prior notice is needed to arrange accommodations. Evidence of practices not consistent with these policies should be reported to the University’s ADA/Section 504 Coordinator: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 201 S. Presidents Cr., Rm 135, Salt Lake City, UT. 84112. (801)581-8365 (V/TDD).

Faculty and Student Responsibilities:

“All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.”

“Faculty…must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning.” PPM 8-12.3, B.

“Students have a right to support and assistance from the University in maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning.” PPM 8-10, II. A.

Wellness Statement:

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness - www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776.

Veteran’s Statement:

If you are a student veteran, I want you to know that the U of Utah has a Veterans Support Center on campus. They are located in Room 161 in the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. Please visit their website for more information about what support they offer, a list of ongoing events and links to outside resources: http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/. Please also let me know if you need any additional support in this class for any reason.

LGBT Resource Center:

If you are a member of the LGBTQ community, I want you to know that my classroom is a safe zone. Additionally, please know that the U of Utah has an LGBT Resource Center on campus. They are located in Room 409 in the Oplin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. You can visit their website to find more information about the support they can offer, a list of events through the center and links to additional resources: http://lgbt.utah.edu/. Please also let me know if there is any additional support you need in this class.

Sexual Misconduct:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776.
Learners of English as a Second Language:

If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language development and writing. These resources include: the Department of Linguistics EAS Program (http://linguistics.utah.edu/eas-program/); the Writing Center (http://writingcenter.utah.edu/); the Writing Program (http://writing-program.utah.edu/); the English Language Institute (http://continue.utah.edu/eli/). Please let me know if there is any additional support you would like to discuss for this class.

Student Names & Personal Pronouns

Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name as well as “Preferred first name” (if previously entered by you in the Student Profile section of your CIS account). While CIS refers to this as merely a preference, I will honor you by referring to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in class, on papers, exams, etc. Please advise me of any name or pronoun changes (and update CIS) so I can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun will be respected.