

## **Faculty Proposal for an Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum**

If you would like to develop an Education Intra-National or Inter-National Intercultural Practicum for JMU's College of Education, and other Education licensure, students please complete the following application. Please read the following information and provide as much of the requested information as possible to facilitate the review and evaluation of this proposal.

Refer to course proposal guidelines in the faculty handbook on the Office of International Programs website: [http://www.jmu.edu/international/docs/STP\\_Handbook\\_2009\\_no\\_appendices.pdf](http://www.jmu.edu/international/docs/STP_Handbook_2009_no_appendices.pdf)

### **Purpose of the Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum:**

The purpose of the Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum is to provide the faculty supervisor and participating students with opportunities to develop their cultural competency in working with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds. Students will develop an understanding of the host's culture and the intercultural competence skills necessary for successful personal and professional interactions among persons from diverse backgrounds. Students will also develop the professional dispositions necessary to apply their intercultural experience to their professional knowledge and skills. Students will be expected to fulfill the requirements designated by their supervisor and actively participate in the academic and nonacademic activities of their host sites.

### **Course objectives for the practicum participants include:**

1. identifying the impact of culture on learning;
2. explaining how the intercultural practicum experience helped him or her to better understand his or her own culture;
3. demonstrating an understanding of the importance of learning to live in a world that is increasingly diverse, complex, and interdependent;
4. analyzing how contemporary issues in the host site/country have been shaped by historical, political, religious, economic, and geographical factors;
5. summarizing different approaches to teaching and learning;
6. demonstrating an ability to work with individuals and service providers in diverse settings
7. and meeting content (cultural theme) specific knowledge/skills outcomes.

**Generic Practicum Outline:** *Some of the main topics on this outline may receive more emphasis than others, depending on the practicum site(s) and activities. This is primarily an inter-cultural practicum and all other topics should support this focus.*

- I. Diversity and Cultural Competence
  - A. Develop an appreciation for other cultures.
  - B. Develop an appreciation for and better understanding of one's own culture.
  - C. Develop and/or enhance intercultural competency skills to live and work in an increasingly diverse world and to successfully interact with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds. Intercultural skills include:
    1. communicating effectively –language skills, paralanguage skills
    2. interpersonal problem solving - critical and creative thinking, sensitive to and assesses needs, responds to information collected
    3. developing and ensuring a physically and socially safe environment
    4. understanding and respecting other cultures and people; sensitivity to the impact of one's own decisions on others
    5. collaborating –establishing relationships, working well with others
    6. integrated thinking – putting ideas and information together, seeing things in a new light
    7. analyzing and evaluating –identifying linkages/networks, observing outcomes/effectiveness, building hypothesis/theories
    8. reflecting – separating truth from fiction, separating reliable from nonreliable information, reasoning abstractly, considering ethical dimensions
    9. persevering - resilient, curious
- II. Contemporary Social Issues
  - A. Develop an understanding of the host site/country's cultural features.
- III. Theories of Teaching and Learning
  - A. Experience a variety of approaches to teaching/working and learning at the host organization(s).
  - B. Practice working with individuals and other service providers in diverse settings.
  - C. Actively participate in academic and nonacademic activities of the host organization(s).

IV. Act As an Ambassador for the Teaching Profession, James Madison University, and the United States

A. Model appropriate personal and professional dispositions required of teachers in a pluralistic and democratic society.

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:** *Cultural competence comprises behaviors, attitudes, and policies that can come together on a continuum: that will ensure that a system, agency, program, or individual can function effectively and appropriately in diverse cultural interaction and settings. It ensures an understanding, appreciation, and respect of cultural differences and similarities within, among and between groups. Cultural competency is a goal that a system, agency, program or individual continually aspires to achieve.*

**National Education Association:** *Cultural competence is the key to thriving in culturally diverse classrooms and schools—and it can be learned, practiced, and institutionalized to better serve diverse students, their families, and their communities. Cultural competence is the ability to successfully teach students who come from a culture or cultures other than our own. It entails developing certain personal and interpersonal awareness and sensitivities, understanding certain bodies of cultural knowledge, and mastering a set of skills that, taken together, underlie effective cross-cultural teaching and culturally responsive teaching. Cultural competence doesn't occur as a result of a single day of training, or reading a book, or taking a course. Educators become culturally competent over time.*

Intercultural Practicum supervisors will meet with Cheri Beverly and other Intercultural Practicum supervisors (past and present) for information and guidance on preparing for this experience, designing and implementing on-going support and learning activities during the experience, and debriefing upon return from the experience. There will be focused meetings on advertising and recruitment of students,

logistical planning, educational planning, creating networks of support, and other questions, concerns or issues relevant to the Intercultural practica.

A minimum of 8 students is required for a practicum to proceed. All OIP deadlines and requirements must be met for practicum to proceed. Approximately 8 – 12 students, representing any of the licensure programs at JMU, participate in each practicum and support one full-time faculty supervisor. At least 12 students are required for consideration of co-supervision, unless co-supervisors are willing to take ½ salary and ½ financial support (air fare, per diem, etc). If you have any questions regarding the roles and responsibilities of the faculty supervisor or the specifics of the Intercultural practica, please contact the Cheri Beverly (beverlcl, 568-6262).

### **Explanation of Process Guiding Selection of New Education Short Term Intercultural Practica**

1. Submit applications for Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum and for Supervision of Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum to the CRPGD (subcommittee) at least one year prior to the desired beginning date.
2. CRPGD (subcommittee) will review and consider each application.
  - a. Sustainability
  - b. New or unique population
  - c. Costs and resources available
  - d. Opportunities available to develop new skills/practice existing skills (cultural competence, cultural/content)
  - e. Time and schedule of time
  - f. Faculty member's qualifications to pilot practicum
  - g. Prerequisite knowledge and skills of student participants
  - h. Support of hosts and other entities
  - i. Open/Appropriate for other faculty – not dependent on one/same faculty supervisor each year – opportunity for other faculty to supervise
3. CRPGD (subcommittee) will meet with applicant to review application, answer questions.
4. CRPGD will meet as review (subcommittee) recommendation and make recommendation to CoE Dean.

5. CoE Dean will make decision and notify CRPGD.
6. CRPGD will inform applicant of decision.
7. If positive, applicant will work with CoE and OIP to develop Intercultural Practicum.

**Faculty Proposal for a  
Short Term International Programs – International Education Practicum**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**College/Department/Program:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Office Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Stop Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructor of Record (Name, Title, and Terminal Degree):**

**Enrollment Projections:**

Minimum enrollment \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum enrollment \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Practicum Site:**

**Hosts/Partner Schools/Universities/Agencies:**

**Have the hosts/partners agreed to this proposal?**

**Contact Person at Host Partners:**

**Course Name and Number (Number of credits, semester):**

EDUC 401/501: Seminar for Intercultural Practicum (1 credit, Spring);

EDUC 401/501: Intercultural Practicum (3 credits, Summer)

**Purpose of the practicum:**

The purpose of the Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum is to provide the faculty supervisor and participating students with opportunities to develop their cultural competency in working with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds. Students will develop an understanding of the host's culture and the intercultural communication skills necessary for successful personal and professional interactions among persons from diverse backgrounds. Students will also develop the professional dispositions necessary to apply their intercultural experience to their professional knowledge and skills. Students will be expected to fulfill the requirements designated by their supervisor and actively participate in the academic and nonacademic activities of their host sites.

**Semester and number of weeks (beginning and ending dates):**

**Pre- and/or co-requisites for students participating in this practicum:**

**Will this practica be required for completion of any licensure program?**

No

**Will this practica be accepted as a substitute for any required courses for program completion?**

**Which ones? Has this been approved by the required administrators?**

No

**Describe how this proposed practicum experience supports JMU's and the CoE's mission statements and diversity initiatives.**

**In addition to the objectives required of all Education Short Term Intercultural Practicum, list cultural/content learning objectives students will meet in this proposed practicum:**

**List the activities and products for this proposed practicum that will support the course objectives:**

**What resources will be needed to ensure this practicum is successfully coordinated and supervised?**

**How will these resources be accessed?**

**What is the projected timeline to have this practicum "up and running"?**

**What qualifications or characteristics will be necessary in the practicum supervisor?**

**Will adequate and affordable housing be available? Provide details if possible**

**Will adequate and affordable transportation be available? Provide details if possible**

**What excursions or cultural opportunities will be available? Provide details if possible**

**Are you an active faculty member in one of the Education Licensure programs?**

**Do you have graduate status?**

**Other details or information that will assist the committee in evaluating this proposed practicum:**

Submit proposal to the CoE Community Relations and Professional Growth and Development Committee

Cheri Beverly (bevercl, 568-6262) MSC 6908, Memorial Hall 312