

Summary of Practicum Guidelines*

Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation

Eligibility

To enroll in the Practicum course, you must have completed:

1. CONR 605 – Negotiation and Mediation
2. Residency Session.
3. Fifteen (15) credit hours in the MACRR program at ACU

Practicum Requirement for students in the Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution

6 Credit Hours (can be configured in three ways):

- Two 3 credit-hour practicum projects (the student participates in two separate projects)
- One 6 credit-hour practicum project (the student participates in one project)
- One 3 credit-hour practicum project and completion of the optional residential course, CONR 645 – “Practical Skills and Theory in Conflict Resolution” (can only be taken once)

Note: The Practicum course (3 or 6 credit hour) lasts one “long” semester (Fall, Spring, or Summer)

As a general guideline, your practicum project should:

1. Add to your experience and ability as a peacemaker,
2. Promote conflict resolution within an existing organization, and/or
3. Promote the profession and scholarly field of conflict resolution

Time and Activity Requirements

3 Credit Hours of Practicum = 125 clock hours (minimum) in project activities.

6 Credit Hours of Practicum = 250 clock hours (minimum) in project activities.

Faculty Advisor

- A faculty member will be assigned to you as your faculty advisor.
- You may request a faculty advisor, subject to departmental approval.

Your Responsibilities

- Generating ideas for your practicum and writing a Practicum Proposal.
- Making regular (weekly & monthly) contact with your faculty advisor.
- Submit a final product as evidence of the learning that has taken place through the practicum experience.

On-Site Supervisor

- Most Practicum projects will require an on-site supervisor.
- On-site supervisors will monitor the project and verify the time investment and activities of the student.
- On-site supervisors are not required to evaluate the work of the student.

Suggested Types of Projects: (this is not an exhaustive list)

- Mediation and/or conflict intervention experience in a public dispute resolution center, private organization through an in-house conflict resolution center, or ombuds office.
- Substantive design and/or implementation of a conflict resolution system or training curriculum and course for a school or organization
- Substantive research and production of a written document suitable for submission to a refereed journal

(* for a full list of requirements and responsibilities, see the course syllabus)

The course experience can be summarized by using three “P’s” (see figure below). Each student begins by presenting a Proposal, which must be approved before the student may move on to the second phase of the course. The Project is complete over the course of one “long” semester (i.e., two online “sessions”). As each student completes the practicum, he or she must present a Product (paper, presentation, etc.) to show evidence of the learning that has taken place over the course of the practicum. This process is designed to showcase acquired skills and knowledge along with the further development of God-given talents and abilities to produce a professional peacemaker.



Course Outline:

General Requirements – Practicum students will be required to:

- Submit a practicum proposal for approval at least a week before the semester begins.
- Create and complete a practicum project that fulfills the required clock hours.
- Maintain weekly contact with faculty advisor.
- Submit a monthly (minimum) progress report to faculty advisor.
- Arrange for at least two progress reports from On-Site Supervisor (if applicable).
- Submit a final product as evidence of the learning that took place through the practicum experience.
- Complete the practicum project within one “long” semester (Fall, Spring, Summer).

Step 1: Practicum Proposal – Each student will create and submit a practicum proposal that includes:

- Name, current title/position, working title, setting, and description of the proposed project.
- Justified need for the project being proposed.
- Goals and objectives of the proposed project.
- Methodology of how the student will complete required hours with the proposed project.
- Contact information for an On-Site Supervisor (if applicable).

Step 2: Approval and Commencement of Project – The student will:

- Receive feedback and constructive comments about their practicum proposal from their faculty advisor (if applicable).
- Receive approval for their practicum project at the faculty advisor’s discretion.
- Enroll in CONR 643 – Practicum, and begin the project after approval from the faculty advisor.
- Maintain regular (weekly) contact with faculty advisor providing periodic (monthly) progress reports about the practicum project.
- Maintain a log of hours meeting the Department’s standards that documents hours devoted to the project.

Step 3: Completion – The student will:

- Submit time logs, progress reports, and any other relevant materials to validate time spent in the completion of the practicum project.
- Submit a final product (paper, presentation, report, etc. determined in conjunction with the faculty advisor) that details the learning experience of the student and how the project promoted the field of conflict resolution.
- Be encouraged to submit the final product as an entry in his or her ePortfolio.

Weight of All Graded Elements:

Assignment	Points
Practicum Proposal	200
Self-report Time Logs	100
Monthly Progress Reports	400
Final Product	200
Project Reflection	100
TOTAL	1000