Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is a ‘Practicum’?
A. A practicum is a period of professional work experience, involving a placement within an organisation in the industry associated with your course. The host organisation may be in the public sector, the private sector or the community/not-for-profit sector.

Q. When can I start my practicum?
A. Practicum can commence once the student has passed and completed all pre-preparatory workshops, Block 1 placement, and the practicum proposal has been submitted. You will be notified by a UTS practicum officer when your placement has been formally approved and you can commence. No hours will be credited for work completed prior to this approval being notified. Please note: the commencement date for your placement can never precede the UTS practicum officer’s approval date. Further, applications for any practicum must be submitted to your UTS practicum officer via YOUR UTS STUDENT EMAIL AT LEAST 10 WORKING DAYS before commencement.

Q. Do all my hours need to be at the same placement site?
A. You may divide your practicum between two sites, however students who undertake placement at two sites will be required to complete a second proposal and application process. The second proposal will not receive marks which contribute towards your overall subject result.

Q. What tasks should I undertake during a placement?
A. The practicum site should provide students with hands-on opportunities to assess, prescribe and deliver exercise to apparently healthy or low risk individuals. The site should also be able to provide appropriate supervision to enable students to log hours for assessment purposes. The result should be a learning experience that facilitates the professional development of the student and meets ESSA Exercise Science criteria.

Q. When do I need to complete my practicum?
A. In time for you to prepare and submit your assessment tasks before the due date found on your Subject Outline.

Q. Am I covered by insurance whilst on placement?
A. The University indemnifies the host organisation for insurance purposes where the experience is unpaid, but not when the experience is paid. The UTS practicum officer will confirm the insurance cover with the host organisation as part of the application/approval process.

Q. Can I be paid for my practicum?
A. Hours cannot be completed at your current place of work, nor can you be paid for the practicum hours that you undertake.

Q. Can I do unpaid work experience that is additional to practicum requirements?
A. Once your UTS approved practicum hours are complete and you have met the requirements of 92550 as a subject, your insurance ceases to be active. Therefore, any additional arrangements that you may choose to make must be done so directly with the organisation that you are wishing to work with. These arrangements are the sole responsibility of the student and are not covered nor endorsed by UTS.