

Student Wellness & Community Development
University of St. Michael's College (in the University of Toronto)

Year 2 Practicum

September 2024-April 2025

Please provide a description of the practicum site and student activities:

The Student Wellness & Community Development MSW field placement student will engage in multi-faceted direct and indirect social work practice at the University of St. Michael's College, fully affiliated with the University of Toronto (St. George campus). The placement student will primarily be involved in preventative health promotion activities, the preparation of psychoeducational workshops and materials, as well as student-centered, confidential one-on-one wellness advising and resource navigation (offering personalized, informed referrals and basic case management).

In this placement, among other activities relating theory to school-based social work practice, the intern will have the opportunity to:

- Meet one-on-one with students in the context of 'resource navigation appointments' to actively listen, provide supportive referrals to on and/or off campus services, complete risk assessment, recommend U of T-based student services to promote general wellness, and offer basic psychoeducation and skill-building based on need and readiness;
- Design and implement evidence-based, high-impact health promotion, community, and educational programs and activities with the goal of fostering overall positive health, healthy relationships, creativity, self-awareness, and resilience within the SMC community (program and activity topics may include: loneliness, stress and anxiety, body image, consent and sexual violence, celebrating diversity, and cultivating personalized self-care practices);
- Research, create, and maintain easily accessible physical and electronic wellness resources for SMC students and staff (and parents);
- Support and liaise with student clubs, organizations, and student leaders, to oversee special student initiated activities relating to overall health and wellness;
- Develop and administer a needs assessment related to on-campus wellness services (specifically regarding the development of a peer support program and wellness space on campus);
- Develop and/or coordinate wellness-based programming, events, and trainings to ensure best practice and the use of relevant, evidence-based (non-clinical) interventions;
- Work collaboratively with Office of the Dean of Students inter-professional staff.

Practicum Requirements:

- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Evening attendance (*occasionally*)

Fields(s) of this Practicum:

- Mental Health and Health

Does your practicum require any previous experience? If yes, please specify.

Previous experience working with students in a post-secondary educational setting is an asset. This placement involves mental health and wellness program development/evaluation, as well as survey design and data collection, so experience with young adult psychoeducation, event planning, and research skills and aptitude are also assets.

Please indicate whether this practicum will be in-person, remote or hybrid.

This practicum is a hybrid placement. The practicum will primarily be in-person but can incorporate remote activities (such as administrative tasks, health promotion design, and programming development) up to one day per week.

Please indicate whether this practicum will involve direct work or a mix of direct and indirect.

This practicum involves a mix of direct work with students (one-on-one 'Wellness Advising' and basic case management) as well as indirect practice (such as research/data collection, development of health promotion content, and event planning).

Number of practicums offered?

This practicum can accommodate one (1) field placement student.

Field Instructor(s') name and credentials:

Emily VanBerkum-Farahat, M.Div, MSW, RSW

Do you require a resume? Or resume and cover letter?

Application should include a resume and cover letter outlining previous experience in research related to program evaluation, mental health programming, as well as an interest in the higher education environment and social work

Accessibility Considerations:

- Will the student have access to a private space for notes or computer use? Yes
- Are there breaks between clients/patients/meetings? Yes

- Is the practicum considered fast-paced? Medium
- Is there a high noise level in the practicum? Low
- Is the site wheelchair accessible? Yes
- What are the physical demands of the practicum? Placement is performed mostly in an office environment and requires the use of standard office equipment and keyboards (viewing a computer screen), typing, writing, walking short distances, and/or picking up materials.
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? Placement involves close visual acuity viewing a computer screen and engaging in prolonged periods of sitting, electronic reading, and record keeping (preparing notes, documentation, maintaining email correspondence, planning and evaluating data/health promotion materials, and program design).

Students registered with University of Toronto Accessibility Services may receive appropriate accommodations for practicum settings. To register: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/departments/accessibility-services/> or call 416-978-8060

If you are interested in this practicum, please send a cover letter and resume to miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca by April 2, 2024. Applications will be forwarded on to the site.