

Cross-Border and International Practicums

(Revised 08/16/2023)

The MACP program is aware of challenges that students may face in locating a practicum site and site supervisor, including students who live outside of Canada in being able to complete the practicum requirements. Therefore, the MACP Department of Field Training has created the following policy and viability checklist in order to help students who reside within and outside of Canada achieve a greater potential for success in completing their practicum experience.

The MACP student who resides outside of Canada must adhere to all stated requirements for acquiring a practicum site (appropriate practicum setting), site supervisor (meet site supervisor requirements), practicum hours requirements, individual supervision requirements and completion of all practicum course requirements as discussed in the MACP Student Practicum Manual. Students who reside outside of Canada must also consider the following additional requirements for Practicum:

Professional Liability Insurance

Yorkville University does not provide liability insurance coverage for students completing a practicum placement outside of Canada. The MACP student will be required to obtain their own professional liability insurance for the duration of practicum. It will be important for the student to speak with the potential site about any additional insurance coverage required by the site.

Online Zoom Meetings

Meetings held online in Zoom are a mandatory part of the practicum course graded components and the student must ensure that he/she/they/them have reliable access to Zoom from the country in which they/them desire to complete their practicum placement.

Language

At least 50% of client's sessions must be in English, and the supervisor must be able to communicate in English with Yorkville University staff and faculty as these individuals will be part of the student's practicum learning and support team.

Viability Checklist

The MACP student who desires to complete their Practicum outside of the location within which they reside, or student who resides outside of Canada, is required to provide written responses to a viability checklist questionnaire. The questionnaire is linked below. The student's responses will be reviewed by the MACP Associate Director of Field Training and determination will be made as to the viability of the proposed practicum placement.

Cross-Province and International Practicum Placement Policy

Before identifying an international practicum site and supervisor, students are solely responsible:

To find out about their province, territory, or country's opinion or declaratory statement issued by the relevant regulatory bodies and/or other practitioner licensing boards that may help inform the student of the [legal and regulatory requirements](#) involved when practicing counselling and/or psychotherapy services [across jurisdictions and/or across borders in different countries](#).

To find out about their province, territory, state, or country's potential [residency requirements](#) pertaining to the actual physical location of practicum sites, i.e., client-location.

To find out about their province, territory, state licensure board, or country's potential [supervisor requirements](#) and what [professionals are qualified to serve as supervisors](#).

To find out about their province, territory, state, or country's requirements regarding specific [qualifications](#) that need to be met if the practicum is to be accepted for licensure, registration, or certification purposes.

The MACP Program encourages international students to solicit a formalized agreement from their prospective practicum site situated beyond the borders of Canada. This agreement should comprehensively delineate various aspects relating to how supervision will be carried out, provide clear information about any potential fees or costs, and provide additional details or explanations about any relevant aspects pertinent to the practicum placement.

In addition to the standard practicum application process, students looking to complete a practicum in a province different than where they reside and/or at an international site are required to provide complete written responses to the following cross-border and/or international practicum questions and submit this document directly with their practicum application documents. Written response can also be sent to the Department of Field Training for review and approval. The Associate Director of Field Training will contact the student with their determination.

Instructions: Please type in name, practicum start year/trimester, and type all of your written responses to the questions within this document. [Submit with practicum application or Send by email to \[practicum@yorkvilleu.ca\]\(mailto:practicum@yorkvilleu.ca\)](#)

Student Name:

Practicum Start Year/Trimester:

Rules and/or Regulations for Practicing Counselling

Please answer the following questions:

Students living in Canada:

Have you researched and reviewed the regulatory body, professional college, or certifying association for your province to ensure alignment with that professional body to provide psychotherapy?

What does the regulatory body, professional college, or certifying association state with regard to providing psychotherapy with clients in your province? Clients outside of your province? Please describe and provide website link to the source.

What steps have you taken to ensure you are in compliance with any rules or regulations deemed necessary to be in place before starting Practicum?

Students living in United States:

Have you researched and reviewed the state licensure board for counsellors in your state of residence to ensure alignment with their rules, regulations, and requirements for academic fieldwork?

Have you researched and reviewed the state licensure board for counsellors in your state of residence to ensure alignment with their rules and regulations to provide mental health counselling?

What does the counseling licensure board state with regard to providing mental health counseling to clients outside of your state of residence? Please describe and provide website link to the source.

What steps have you taken to solicit a formalized agreement from your prospective practicum site situated beyond the borders of Canada? Does this agreement comprehensively describe various aspects relating to how supervision will be carried out and provide clear information about any potential fees or costs?

Students living in Other Countries:

Have you researched and reviewed the regulatory body, licensure board, or certifying association for your country and/or region to ensure alignment with that professional body to provide psychotherapy?

What does the regulatory body, licensure board, certifying association state with regard to providing psychotherapy with clients in your country and/or region? Clients outside of your country and/or region? Please describe and provide website link to the source.

What steps have you taken to ensure you are in compliance with any rules or regulations deemed necessary to be in place before starting Practicum?

What steps have you taken to solicit a formalized agreement from your prospective practicum site situated beyond the borders of Canada? Does this agreement comprehensively describe various aspects relating to how supervision will be carried out and provide clear information about any potential fees or costs?

Affiliation Agreement

Some practicum sites, in particular hospitals, school boards, and government departments require an affiliation agreement, which is a contract between the practicum site and the University. If the potential organization (site) does require YU to agree to and sign an Affiliation Agreement, please be advised that for an affiliation agreement to be put into place, the process usually involves several officials within the practicum organization and the University to negotiate and sign an Affiliation Agreement. This process often can take months.

Please answer the following questions:

Does the potential organization (site) require that YU agree to and sign an external affiliation agreement provided by the potential practicum site? Yes No

If yes, then the student must inform the site contact to the Department of Field Training point of contact for Affiliation Agreements, healthauthorityliaison@yorkvilleu.ca.

Practicum Supervisor

Please review the [Student Manual Addendum-Site Supervisor Requirements, effective January 1, 2022](#), posted on the MACP Practicum Portal-Students' website. All site supervisors must meet the site supervisor requirements, no matter where the supervisor resides/practices, in order to be considered for approval as a site supervisor for MACP practicum students.

Additionally, the proposed site supervisor, onsite and/or external, is responsible for:

Providing the Required Onsite Supervision roles and responsibilities as outlined in the MACP Student Practicum Manual.

Provide individual supervision each week for no less than 60 minutes.

Meet in a scheduled Zoom conference call with the Practicum Faculty Instructor and student near the each of each trimester of practicum to engage in a Faculty Instructor Evaluation meeting to discuss the student's progress in practicum.

Access the MACP online platform for reviewing and approving the practicum student's hours logs throughout the practicum experience.

Please answer the following questions:

Has the proposed site supervisor been made aware by you of the MACP Site Supervisor Requirements effective January 1, 2022, posted on the MACP Practicum Portal website?

Has the proposed site supervisor been informed by you of the requirements and expectations for providing clinical supervision for a MACP practicum student?

Will the site supervisor be able to provide direct observation of you counselling clients at a minimum of three times during the practicum experience?

Language Requirement

Yorkville University offers its programs in the English language and faculty must be able to evaluate student's counselling competencies in the English language. For students who will be completing a practicum at a site where English is not the first language.

Please answer the following questions:

Is the site supervisor able to speak English to provide feedback for the faculty instructor's evaluation of the student?

Will at least 50% of the counselling sessions conducted by the student be in the English language?

Will the student be able to record counselling sessions to complete the Student Video Case Presentation practicum course assignment in the English language, with both the student and client speaking English?

Home and/or Off-site Client Visits

It is the expectation of the university that students will see clients at their practicum site or via tele-mental health counselling, and not in other locations not approved by the University. Offering counselling services off-site must be an exception and not a regular part of the student's practicum experience.

Please answer the following question:

Will the site expect the student to engage in off-site visits with clients? Yes or No. If yes, then please describe.

Accessing Zoom Outside of Canada

Online meetings for PSYC7113 and PSYC7203 are conducted through a meeting software called Zoom that has been provisioned by the University for all staff, faculty and students to use where needed. Students preparing for practicum are responsible for ensuring they can access Zoom from the country in which they choose to do their placement, as online Zoom meetings are a mandatory part of the PSYC7113 and PSYC7203 Practicum course.

Please answer the following question:

Have you researched the internet services/connection in the location you wish to complete your practicum experience?

Will the location have sufficient internet services/connection for you and the client to be able to complete the practicum course requirements (online meetings; faculty instructor evaluation sessions)?

Will you be able to access Zoom from the country in which you choose to do your practicum placement? Please describe and provide website link to the source.

Tele-mental Health Counselling

Tele-mental health counselling is now an acceptable and approved delivery model for students to engage their clients. The site is responsible to make sure students have all they need to be successful when engaged in tele-mental health counselling with clients, which includes but is not limited to training, appropriate technology, supervision, and client and student safety.

The practice of tele-mental health counselling and psychotherapy services requires careful consideration of legal requirements, ethical standards, telecommunication technologies, intra- and interagency policies, and other potential constraints and demands. It will be important for MACP students to be cognizant and compliant with laws and regulations that govern counselling and psychotherapy practice within jurisdictions and across jurisdictional and international borders. Canadian organizations such as CRPO, CPA and the CCPA have created guidelines to inform agencies and clinicians of the provision of psychological services using electronic media.

Research the website most applicable to you for published guidelines, standards, rules, and laws, for engaging in the practice of counselling via tele-mental health counselling.

Please answer the following questions:

What are the jurisdictional requirements (i.e., province, territory or country) of both the counsellor and the client when conducting tele-mental (online) health counselling?

Students in Canada:

Is providing tele-mental health counselling allowed when you reside in one province and the clients reside in a different province?

Does the provincial authority require that you join the appropriate college to be able to practice online in that province?

If yes, what steps have you taken in joining the appropriate college?

Students living in United States:

Is providing tele-mental health counselling allowed when you reside in a state different than the state of your clients?

What are the guidelines for providing tele-mental health counselling when you reside in the US and the clients reside in a different country?

Students living in Other Countries:

What are the guidelines for providing tele-mental health counselling when you reside in a country different than the country where your clients reside?

Insurance

Yorkville University insurance does not provide liability insurance coverage for students completing a practicum placement outside of Canada. Yorkville University MACP students will be required to obtain their own professional liability insurance for the duration of practicum. It will be important to speak with potential site supervisors about any additional insurance coverage required by the site.

Please answer the following questions:

Have you researched and/or purchased individual professional liability insurance?

Have you asked the proposed practicum site of any requirements they may have on the amount of professional liability insurance coverage?

Does the professional liability insurance policy cover the student to provide mental health counselling with clients who live in a different province/territory/state/ or country from the student?

Does the professional liability insurance policy cover your engaging in tele-mental health counselling with clients who reside outside your province, territory or country?

Reference Sources (not an exhaustive list)

American Psychological Association. Guidelines for the Practice of Telepsychology.

<https://www.apa.org/practice/guidelines/telepsychology>

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (2014). Code of Ethics.

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (2018). Guidelines for the uses of technology in counselling and psychotherapy. Technology and Innovative Solutions Chapter Project.

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (2018). Reference list for Guidelines for the uses of technology in counselling and psychotherapy. Technology and Innovative Solutions Chapter Project.

Canadian Psychological Association (March 2020). Providing Psychological Services via Electronic Media <https://cpa.ca/aboutcpa/committees/ethics/psychserviceselectronically/>

Jane's Guide. Canadian Telehealth Regulations. <https://jane.app/guide/telehealth/canadian-telehealth-regulations>

This website contains a listing of jurisdictions, organizations, and links to resources for the organizations by Jurisdiction. It is important that students are fully aware of the provincial guidelines for practicing telehealth (a/k/a telemental health).