Counselling Practicum Placements

AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Health & Counselling Services at Simon Fraser University (SFU) offers part-time, unpaid practicum opportunities to Master’s level students in counselling and clinical psychology programs. The experience is designed to enable students to further develop their counselling skills, interests, and professional identities.

ABOUT SFU HEALTH & COUNSELLING SERVICES

Health and Counselling Services (HCS) is an integrated health care service providing innovative programs and services designed to meet the needs of SFU students. The Centre provides a range of professional services. In addition to counselling, we also offer psychiatry, physicians, nurses, physiotherapy and chiropractic sessions, as well as a very active and innovative Health Promotion team.

Simon Fraser University is committed to the principle of equity in employment and welcomes applications from all qualified students. Ranked by respected national surveys as one of Canada’s top three comprehensive universities for almost 20 years.

Mentored by faculty acclaimed for their research and teaching abilities and coached by dedicated advisors and employers in our work integrated learning program, our more than 100,000 graduates enjoy limitless career opportunities.

OPPORTUNITIES

- A training period focusing on team development, specific counselling topics, risk assessment and orientation to SFU Health & Counselling Services
- Working with an integrated team of counselling, medical, and health promotion professionals
- Working with a wide range of challenging clinical issues and with diverse clients
- Providing individual counselling for SFU students
- Co-facilitating group counselling
- Crisis intervention and management
- Conducting initial intake appointments for SFU students seeking counselling
- Participating in critical incident stress debriefing
- Facilitation of psycho-educational workshops

SUPERVISION

1.5 - 2 hours per week individual supervision with a primary qualified supervisor
1.5 - 2 hours clinical group supervision and training per week
Ad hoc, on site supervision and consultation in a team environment - never wait for urgent support
OUR EXPECTATIONS

- Enrollment in a Master’s level counselling or clinical psychology program
- Mastery of basic counselling skills
- Commitment to the value of learning and to maintaining the ethical and professional standards as established by the British Columbia Association of Clinical Counsellors (BCACC)
- Working on site at SFU Burnaby Campus

PRACTICUM OPTIONS – PLEASE INDICATE WHICH PLACEMENT YOU ARE APPLYING FOR

SUMMER PRACTICUM PROGRAM (INTENSIVE)
Mid-April - end of August 2025 (though students may stay until mid Sept. if required)
A five month, 4 days per week commitment
Students will maintain a caseload of 12–16 client hours per week

FALL/SPRING PRACTICUM PROGRAM
September 2025 – April 2026
An eight-month, 2.5 – 2.75 days per week commitment
Students will maintain a caseload of 8–10 client hours per week

THE APPLICATION PACKAGE

Applicants to submit all of the following in one email (preferred) or one mailed package if possible:

1. Approx 30-minute video of a mock counselling session (first session) following these guidelines:
   - Recorded on an unlocked/non-encrypted USB memory stick or you may provide a digital link to your video. A recorded Zoom session will be accepted if an in-person demo is not possible.
   - Assume that basic background information has been collected on an Intake form previously completed by your client. You have reviewed this information prior to the session and are generally aware of your clients presenting issues and concerns.
   - As a part of the intake package, your client has already read and signed off on the limits confidentiality and you are not required to cover this in your mock session (*in actual practice, we do review the limits to confidentiality with every client during their first counselling appointment).
   - Your mock session should focus on the counselling relationship, developing rapport, goal formulation, structuring the session, and on basic counselling micro skills and interventions.
   - Our goal in requesting a mock video as a part of your application package is to gain a sense of your presence and approach with your client.
   - Unless required by your program, you are not required to have your volunteer mock client complete a consent form for the videotaping of the mock session.

2. Letter of intent, including statement of professional objectives for the practicum
3. Current curriculum vitae/resume
4. Transcripts from undergraduate (unofficial transcript accepted) and graduate programs (unofficial transcript accepted for application) (official transcript required if selected)
5. Three letters of evaluation / recommendation from academic and/or clinical/work settings (send directly in your package or separately from your reference if required)
6. Accepted applicants are required to have a recent clear criminal record check prior to start date
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION

Summer Practicum: Friday, January 17, 2025 (or open until filled*)
Fall/Spring Practicum: Monday, February 2, 2025 (or open until filled*)
*Your questions and early introductions are welcome. We will respond to your inquiries.
*Practicum applications will continue to be accepted until all positions are filled. Early applications are accepted. Please reach out to us if you are passionate about a practicum at HCS - email Lyndsay Cotterall, RCC-ACS - lyndsays@sfu.ca if you would like to learn more about our program.

Applications for the 2025/2026 Summer & Fall/Spring Practicum may be submitted digitally by email to lyndsays@sfu.ca. If an encrypted USB is also required, please mail it to the mailing address below. Please note which practicum you are applying for (or indicate both if applicable).

NOTE: Successful applicants will be required to present a Criminal Records Search attesting they are cleared to work with minors and members of vulnerable populations. The period covered must include the entire duration of the practicum.

IF REQUIRED, MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:
Lyndsay Cotterall
Health & Counselling Services
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC, Canada
V5A 1S6

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US:
Lyndsay Cotterall, MEd, RCC-ACS
Health & Counselling Services
Clinical Counsellor & Practicum Coordinator
Simon Fraser University
tel: 778.782.5821
email: lyndsays@sfu.ca

THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING STAFF
Angela Post, Ph.D., R.Psych (UBC)
Lyndsay Cotterall, MEd, RCC-ACS (Simon Fraser University)
Tanu Gamble, MEd, RCC (UBC)
Wayne Heaslip, MA, RCC (Adler University)
Sarah Parkes, MA, RCC (Simon Fraser University)
Les Reimer, MA, RCC (Providence Theological Seminary)
Beth Triano, MA, RCC (Yorkville University)
David Lindskoog, MA, RCC (Adler University)
Sean Heaslip, MA, RCC (UBC)
Jennifer Chalmers, Psy.D. (Adler)
Tricia-Kay Williams, MA (Adler)
Shona Adams Psy.D. (Leicester University)
Monique Wong, MA, M.Ed., RCC, CCC (The Chinese University of Hong Kong; Simon Fraser University)
Doriana Marrello, MC, RCC (University of Seattle)
Jennifer Reandy, MA, RCC (UBC)