Health Sciences Senior Capstone Experiences

Health Sciences Program
The Health Sciences program is a 4 year bachelors program that focuses on developing the knowledge base, skill sets and professional experiences necessary for success in health-science related fields. Within the degree program there are 3 tracks of emphasis for students to focus on. Tracks include Clinical & Applied Sciences, Health Services Management, and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Senior Capstone Description
The Senior Capstone Experience includes 2 experiential courses in which students work for preceptors and 1 didactic course. Within the didactic course, the students present a project in which they completed during the experiential portion.

The capstone experience provides students the opportunity to apply and integrate classroom instruction with hands-on experiences in health care, research, and other health sciences environments. Students are integrated into meaningful worksite experiences that can benefit the sites.

Requirements for the experiential courses: students must work 10-12 hours per week for at least 12 weeks in 2 semesters (minimum of 24 weeks). Each student has competencies that must be completed and are assessed every 6 weeks by preceptors.

The Experiences for the preceptor:
Student experiences vary from site to site. Students should be given real meaningful work for the site. The goal is to have the student bring value to the site by completing work that needs to be accomplished with mentoring from the preceptor.

*Prior to all experiences students will have 2 MMR vaccinations, TB tests, Tdap, and hepatitis B vaccines. They will have criminal background checks, drug screenings, CPR training, blood borne pathogen training, and HIPAA training. Competencies must be completed prior to graduation. Affiliation agreements are required for all sites in which capstone students are placed.

Examples of Experiences:
These are purely examples and will change from site to site.

Health Services Management Type Experiences: student may work for an office/clinic manager as an assistant (possibly doing marketing projects, research, filing, data entry, patient records, and other administrative duties that an entry level person should be able to do); non-profit organizations assisting with business management; work for human resources as an intern; OR work as an assistant to a CEO at a healthcare facility on compliance reporting

Clinical & Applied Sciences Type Experiences: students work with patient education coordinators, clinical managers, lab techs, physicians, exercise physiologists, wellness directors, special needs coordinators/therapists, or cardiac rehab aiding in the needed testing/prescriptions OR the student could work in volunteer services coordinating and working with the children/adults or other health areas. Clinical research is also an option. The focus is patient/client care/education. Due to rules/regulations, there will also be observations that coincide with projects. We would like to find patient care/education type projects or research for our clinical students on top of any clinical experiences that are available, but do understand that these students are undergraduates and actual patient/client contact is limited.

Pharmaceutical Sciences Type Experiences: students work in a research lab as a research assistant.

Preceptor Responsibility
*6 week evaluations of the students completely electronically
*Provide constructive feedback to the student verbally and at mid point and final evaluations
*Answer questions for the student
*Provide a professional educational environment for the student (meaning that the student should be actively participating in real work experiences)