Psychology Practica Opportunities: Steps to Enroll for PSY 3970

1. Go through the Practica Handout and select practicum(s) based on pre-requisites and interest
2. See the Undergraduate Psychology Advisor if you have general practica questions
3. Contact the faculty member listed in the “Contact” line of the Practicum Handout or Departmental Website
4. Contact the practicum site given to you by the faculty member
5. Print off and fill out Permission to Elect Form which can be found on the Psychology Blog Site: http://dearpsychologyadvisor.blogspot.com or the Psychology Website: http://www.wmich.edu/psychology/advising/undergraduate/practicum
6. Attend interview for practicum site if required and bring the Permission to Elect Form
7. Complete any required background checks: see specific practicum pre-reqs requiring background checks
8. Have On-Site Supervisor at the practicum site sign the Permission to Elect Form
9. Have faculty member sign the Permission to Elect Form
10. Bring the Permission to Elect Form completely filled out with all signatures to the Psychology Undergraduate Advisor 3700 Wood Hall
11. Check your schedule to make sure you have been registered for PSY 3970 (Please contact the undergraduate psychology advisor psy-advising@wmich.edu with your WIN if you have not been registered within 5-7 business days of dropping off your permission to elect form)
12. A minimum of 135 hours or approximately 10 hours per week is required to complete a practicum

Autism/Developmental Disabilities Practica

PSY 1403: Autism Practicum at KRESA West Campus
Location: KRESA West Campus, 4606 Croyden Ave, on the corner of Drake Rd and Croyden Ave in Kalamazoo
Description: This practicum involves working with a young child diagnosed with a developmental disability.
Availability: Fall, Spring, Summer
Prerequisites: PSY 1400 and PSY 1402 with “B” or better; Does not need Permission to Elect Form filled out; Background check will be done by practicum site
Registration: Coordinator will get students registered if accepted into practicum
Contact: Michael L. Tomak; michael.l.tomak@wmich.edu

PSY 3970: Summit Pointe Autism Center
Location: Battle Creek
Description: This practicum uses evidence-based practices, grounded in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), to teach language and learning skills to young children (up to age 6) that are diagnosed with autism.
Availability: Fall, Spring, Summer (minimum of two consecutive semesters)
Prerequisites: PSY 1400 and PSY 3300 with “B” or better; Background check will be done by practicum site; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required
Contact: Dr. Jessica Frieder; jessica.frieder@wmich.edu

PSY 3970: Summit Pointe Behavior Treatment Committee (BTC)
Location: Battle Creek and surrounding areas
Description: This practicum focuses on the use of evidence-based practices, grounded in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), to assess and develop effective interventions for adults with developmental disabilities, individuals with mental health diagnoses, and multi-system needs (e.g., legal system).
Availability: Fall, Spring, Summer (minimum of two consecutive semesters)
Prerequisites: PSY 1400 and PSY 3300 with “B” or better; Background check will be done by practicum site; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required
Contact: Dr. Jessica Frieder; jessica.frieder@wmich.edu
PSY 3970: Van Buren Intermediate School District (VBISD)

**Location:** Different classrooms and schools locations in Van Buren County

**Description:** This practicum focuses on the use of evidence-based practices, to assess and develop effective interventions for students up to the age of 26 with developmental disabilities who exhibit troublesome behavior and/or are missing important skills from their repertoire.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring; (minimum of two consecutive semesters)

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1400 and PSY 3300 with “B” or better; Background check will be done by practicum site; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*

**Contact:** Dr. Jessica Frieder: jessica.frieder@wmich.edu

PSY 3970: Psychological Assessment & Treatment Services (PATS)

**Location:** Kalamazoo Area

**Description:** This practicum serves Community Mental Health clients with difficult problem behaviors that require more intensive assessment and treatment services. While the PATS team serves some clients who have mental illness diagnoses, this site primarily works with developmental disabilities in both adults and children.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1400 with “B” or better and PSY 3300; Previous Practicum experience preferred; Background check submitted by student required; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*

**Contact:** Cody Morris: cody.a.morris@wmich.edu

PSY 3970: Kalamazoo Autism Center (KAC)

**Location:** Kalamazoo

**Description:** The undergraduate practicum at the Kalamazoo Autism Center is an advanced practicum designed to provide training in the job performances required of a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA). Practicum students will have the opportunity to serve as an assistant to a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) employed at the KAC.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Prerequisites:** PSY1400 with “B” or better; Previous Autism/Developmental Disabilities Practicum experience required; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required to be registered

**Contact:** Dr. Katie Garza: katie.garza@wmich.edu

**Education/School Practia**

PSY 3970: Psychology in the Schools (Psych in Schools)

**Location:** Portage Public Schools

**Description:** The Psych in Schools Practicum involves a unique experience where graduate and undergraduate students will have the opportunity to learn about the effectiveness of applied behavior analysis (ABA) in schools. Additionally, students will help with a variety of needs from designing assessments to implementing interventions. Moreover, they will collaborate with existing school teams to design treatments that are evidence-based, effective for the students, and efficient for the staff.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, Summer 1

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1400 with “B” or better and PSY 3300; Available for two-semester commitment fall and spring; Background check submitted by student required; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*

**Contact:** Nicole Hollins: Nicole.a.hollins@wmich.edu
**PSY 3970: Language and Literacy Practicum**

**Location:** Various locations in Kalamazoo area

**Description:** The Language and Literacy Practicum is designed to teach undergraduate students how to apply principles of behavior to the education of children, adolescents, and young adults who struggle with reading and/or language skills. Practicum students will serve as tutors and/or classroom assistants in a middle school in Kalamazoo County. Students will receive hands-on and seminar training for the first four weeks of the semester before working for 10 hours each week in the classroom. For more information and an application: [http://academicliteracylab.weebly.com/soar-practicum.html](http://academicliteracylab.weebly.com/soar-practicum.html)

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1400 with “B” or better; Availability for a two semester commitment fall and spring; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required

**Availability:** Fall, Spring

**Contact:** Sarah A. Pichler: [sarah.a.pichler@wmich.edu](mailto:sarah.a.pichler@wmich.edu) and Dr. Denise Ross: [denise.ross@wmich.edu](mailto:denise.ross@wmich.edu)

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**PSY 3970: Sexual Health Peer Education Project**

**Location:** Sindecuse Health Center

**Description:** Students provide information regarding prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, contraception and responsible sexual behavior to other students using many different methods of outreach and education.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring

**Prerequisites:** Students are selected by interview and/or audition; Application through Sindecuse available Nov 1-Dec 1 for spring semester; Application through Sindecuse available March 15-April 15 for fall semester; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required

**Contact:** Dr. Lester Wright: [lester.wright@wmich.edu](mailto:lester.wright@wmich.edu)

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**Aging Practicum**

**PSY 3970: Aging practicum- WMU Senior Day Services**

**Location:** Portage

**Description:** Work with older adults with Neurocognitive Disorder (formerly known as dementia) and aging adults with developmental disabilities. Learn how to implement behavior plans, collect data, administer psychological assessments, engage participants in activities, and run your own project. Students will be working with a multidisciplinary group including an occupational therapist, a registered nurse, a certified nursing assistant, volunteers, and graduate psychology students.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, Summer (two semesters preferred)

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1400 and/or PSY 3300 with “B” or better; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required

**Contact:** Andrea Perez: [Andrea.Perez@wmich.edu](mailto:Andrea.Perez@wmich.edu)

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**Counseling/Clinical Practica**

**PSY 3970: Crisis Intervention Hotline**

**Location:** Gryphon Place: Kalamazoo

**Description:** Students will receive intensive training in answering Crisis Intervention Hotline calls.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Prerequisites:** Applying and passing the screening and training process; Requires minimum of 200 hours; Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required

**Contact:** Dr. Lester Wright: [lester.wright@wmich.edu](mailto:lester.wright@wmich.edu)
**PSY 3970: Youth Shelter Practicum**

*Location*: The ARK: Kalamazoo  
*Description*: Students assist crisis workers at a shelter for runaway youth in creating a therapeutic environment that will motivate youth to resolve problems.  
*Availability*: Fall, Spring, May be available Summer  
*Prerequisites*: One previous course taught by Dr. Wright; Background check required; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*  
*Contact*: Dr. Lester Wright: lester.wright@wmich.edu

**PSY 3970: Domestic and Sexual Assault**

*Location*: YWCA: Kalamazoo  
*Description*: This practicum involves assisting in domestic and sexual assault crisis services.  
*Availability*: Fall, Spring, Summer  
*Prerequisites*: PSY 4240 or 5240 and PSY 2500 with “C” or better; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*  
*Contact*: Dr. Lester Wright: lester.wright@wmich.edu

**PSY 3970: KPEP - Kalamazoo Probation Enhancement Program**

*Location*: KPEP: Kalamazoo and some surrounding counties  
*Description*: KPEP operates residential and non-residential programs for adult offenders as a community-based alternative to incarceration.  
*Availability*: Fall, Spring, Summer  
*Prerequisites*: PSY 5240 and PSY 3260 with “C” or better; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*  
*Contact*: Dr. Lester Wright: lester.wright@wmich.edu

**PSY 3970: VOICES Practicum**

*Location*: VOICES: Kalamazoo  
*Description*: Voices Against Sexual Assault (VOICES) is a community organization that seeks to join local groups and organizations in a collaborative effort to reduce sexual victimization.  
*Availability*: Fall, Spring  
*Prerequisites*: PSY 5240 with “C” or better; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*  
*Contact*: Dr. Lester Wright: lester.wright@wmich.edu

**PSY 3970: FIRE Place**

*Location*: Sindecuse Health Center  
*Description*: The FIRE! Sexual Assault Peer Educators is a peer education program whose primary goal is to educate the campus about sexual assault.  
*Availability*: Fall, Spring, May be available summer  
*Prerequisites*: PSY 5240 with “C” or better; *Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required*  
*Contact*: Dr. Lester Wright: lester.wright@wmich.edu
Applied Animal Behavior Practicum

**PSY 3970: Applied Animal Behavior Practicum**

**Location:** Kalamazoo County Animal Services and Enforcement (KCASE) &/or the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) of Southwest Michigan

**Description:** Students train the homeless dogs and cats available for adoption at local area shelters behaviors that will make them more attractive to potential adopters using behavior analysis.

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, sometimes Summer

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1400 with “C” or better; Previous experience handling animals preferred; _Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required_

**Contact:** Bethany Hintze: bethany.m.hintze@wmich.edu or Dr. Cindy Pietras cynthia.pietras@wmich.edu

Neuroscience Practicum

**PSY 3780: Behavioral Neuroscience Research Practicum**

**Location:** Main Campus

**Description:** Students will gain hands-on experience with research methods and techniques implemented in biopsychology and neuroscience by engaging in intensive study of brain anatomy through hands-on dissections and computer aided tutorials. Students will also observe selected research methods and techniques, including electrophysiology, psychophysiology, and behavioral pharmacology. Students will research scholarly scientific literature to design, plan, and implement research projects as well as gain experience with research data analysis and APA style research report writing.

**Availability:** Spring

**Prerequisites:** PSY 1000, 1400, 1600 3000, and 3720 (_PSY 3720 to be taken concurrently_); _Application needed for consideration_

**Contact:** Dr. Lisa Baker: lisa.baker@wmich.edu

Student Designed Practicum

**Description:** In order to offer students a broad range of options to complete their practica requirement, the department has established a practicum that students are able to develop and implement the practicum independently.

**Requirements:** Psychological in nature, on-site supervisor, faculty supervisor, minimum of 135 hours, and must be upaid.

**Prerequisites:** _Completed Permission to Elect Form submitted to Advising Office required._

**Availability:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Contact:** If you have any questions, please go to the Psychology Website: [www.wmich.edu/psychology/advising](http://www.wmich.edu/psychology/advising) or Psychology Blog Site: [http://dearpsychologyadvisor.blogspot.com](http://dearpsychologyadvisor.blogspot.com)