

SUPERVISED PRACTICE IN PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELLING

Institution: Institute of Theology of the EELC

Curriculum: Theology, Professional Higher Education

Module: Practice and Supervision

Code: UI/RAK/3.04

Volume: 20 ECTS

Coordinator of the practice: Mag Theol Naatan Haamer

1. Volume of the practice

Pastoral Care and Counselling specialty practice in the Tartu Academy of Theology of the Institute of Theology of the EELC (IT EELC) is a part of professional training in the volume of 20 credits (560 hours of student work) in the frames of professional higher education of theology.

2. Objective of the practice

1. Integration of theory and practice.
2. Development of professional skills.
3. Finding one's individual style as a pastoral carer and counsellor.
4. Gaining the professional experience.
5. Preparation for independent pastoral work.

3. Outcomes of the practice

On completion of the practice, student:

- 1) can offer practical pastoral care and counselling;
- 2) can cooperate with people in his/her work environment;
- 3) can respond to the needs for pastoral care and counselling and solve ethical problems;
- 4) knows the work boundaries and work hygiene (self-sustainable professional performance);
- 5) is able to analyse his/her work and turn it into competence.

4. Organisation of the practice

Professional counselling practice takes place mainly in the health and social institutions, and churches, but also elsewhere. The precise arrangements of the practice are to be agreed between the practice base, TAT IT and the apprentice. TAT IT appoints the supervisor to the apprentice. The practice base does not appoint a supervisor.

Expectations to the practice base:

1. The practice base should inform the apprentice about the rules of procedure and other regulations relating to the execution of practice.
2. Appointment of a contact person to whom the apprentice can turn to obtain information on the spot related to the working environment and whom TAT IT representative can contact if necessary.
3. The contact person or representative of the practice base has to write a brief characterization of the apprentice at the end of the practice.

5. Tasks of the apprentice

1. Getting familiarized with the rules of procedure of the practice base and other regulations and following them.
2. Defining one's role in the system.
3. Execution of practice in accordance with agreed rules of procedures.
4. The student has to keep the practice record book and compose a report of practice.
5. Following of work principles of a pastoral carer and counsellor.
6. If necessary, inform the practice base about the specificity of the work of a pastoral carer and counsellor.
7. Regular meetings with supervisor.
8. At least 20 reports of conversations are to be presented to the supervisor (no reports of conversations are presented at the final seminar of the practice nor to any other person).

6. Tasks of the supervisor

1. To draw up a practice plan together with the student and set the specific tasks and objectives.
2. To carry out three supervisions during the practice period, but also more if necessary.
3. To submit at the end of the practice a written evaluation about the activities performed during the practice.

7. Documentation of the practice

1. Report of practice, which consists of:
 - a. time and place for the practice;
 - b. practice record book containing all activities performed during the practice;
 - c. evaluation by the representative of the practice base;
 - d. evaluation by the supervisor;
 - e. self-analysis and evaluation of the practice by the apprentice;
 - f. evaluation sheet.
2. Reports of conversations and analyses meet the requirements presented by the supervisor. They are not added to the report of the practice, but are presented only to the supervisor.

8. Assessment of the practice

In assessment of completion of the practices performed by the student, the following components are taken into account: student's attitude towards work, learning from the supervision, contact with the people, cooperation ability, independence, creativity, initiative and ability to reflect, analyse and make sense of his/her actions.

Practice ends by defending the performed practice at the final seminar.

The final grade for the student's practice is determined by the Defence Commission composed by the Head of the IT TAT.