

Health Sciences Library

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Field Experience, Practicum and Internships

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Thank you for your interest in a 'real world' experiential learning opportunity at the HSL. The following list provides ideas upon which students can base proposals. This list is **not exhaustive** and we regularly accept ideas for customized field experience opportunities based on student interests. We accept multiple students each semester. For more information, contact [Barbara Renner](#).

Gain Library Liaison Experience

Provide information services to a health school, department, or program under the guidance of that client group's Librarian Liaison. The HSL currently employs liaison librarians in the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, Pharmacy and Dentistry and the Department of Allied Health. We also employ liaisons that focus on clinical information needs at UNC Hospitals, on cancer information, bioinformatics, health literacy, history of health sciences, and translational research. Visit our website for a [full list of liaison areas](#).

Potential field experience duties could include:

- Shadow the Liaison during consultations, instruction, or other interactions with clients
- Create or update resource pages embedded within a core curriculum or client group's website
- Help create instructional content for online, in-person, or self-instruction
- Set up current awareness searches in faculty members' areas of teaching, research, and public engagement.
- Meet with faculty to learn their needs and introduce them to library services
- Help faculty use technologies such as social media, web/video conferencing, and others that will enhance their work, productivity, or ability to collaborate.
- Team-teach with the Librarian Liaison.

Create and Help Implement a Communications or Marketing Plan

Select from a variety of library services, programs, or events and conceptualize and create a communications or marketing plan. Research the product and target audience. Identify and work within a budget. Collect and incorporate feedback from the target audience, the library director of development, and the communications manager. Carry out as much of the plan as is feasible. Evaluate and report on success of the plan. Make recommendations for future communications and marketing.

Gain Data Visualization and Support Experience

Help the Library develop and actively promote services to researchers in [bioinformatics](#), biomedical sciences, informatics, chemistry, environmental sciences, and other basic science disciplines.

Potential field experience duties could include:

- Create instructional modules on biomedical informatics knowledge discovery, data management, and data visualization
- Prepare or update website content and promotional materials
- Plan and hold events; design and conduct a service evaluation
- Help prepare a professional publication or presentation.

Reach out to North Carolina through NC Health Info

NC Health Info (www.nchealthinfo.org), is the library's consumer health website for North Carolina citizens. Available in English and Spanish, the site features information to help people become informed patients and manage their health care. It also features information on the state's most challenging chronic and infectious diseases and conditions, as well as health care processes and procedures; mental health; preventive health; medications and more. The site's Go Local feature allows users to find health services in their communities.

Potential field experience duties could include:

- Help NC Health Info staff evaluate and select web sites that are easy-to-read, credible, and match the highest incidences of disease in North Carolina
- Implement and evaluate social marketing activities and other methods to reach students and older adults
- Develop and implement a plan for increasing links to NC Health Info on other web sites
- Assist in the development of a needs assessment to guide future technical enhancements.

Explore New Technologies for Service Delivery

Identify information and service needs and match solutions that are user friendly, interactive, sustainable, and reach targeted audiences. Various technologies offer opportunities to creatively address users' needs. Health affairs students and faculty work locally, statewide, and globally; information and technology solutions that are platform agnostic and independent of place and time are important.

Potential practical experience could include exploration and testing of:

- Emerging technologies
- Course management systems
- Presentation and lecture capture
- Virtual reality/simulation
- Reference management
- Multimedia
- Videoconferencing.