Purpose/Objectives:

“The purpose was to assist with facilitation, oversight, and provision of statewide HIV/AIDS programs and services at the local level. The Team provides consultation to the Section and to the HIV clinics located in county health departments throughout Florida. Furthermore, to support the Medical Team in creating educational resources addressing HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), for statewide distribution to clinics. This field experience builds upon competencies related to public health education and administration.”

Outcomes/Accomplishments:

“The outcome was the development and implementation of statewide clinical guidance, with emphasis on research and analysis, professional writing, and presentation skills. My deliverables include creating: a clinical guideline for healthcare professionals regarding implementation of PrEP; a brochure for patients offering a basic overview of PrEP; a resources list analyzed for educational materials; a resource document demonstrating how to access PrEP for the uninsured/underinsured and with insurance; a business case for the use of PrEP for prevention and treatment of HIV; a cost-effectiveness analysis offering a comparison for the cost of PrEP versus the cost of HIV treatment; an implementation plan for PrEP; a transcript of interviews with nurse consultants; and a summary of all of these activities.”

Recommendations to students:

“If considering a field experience placement at a Health Department, it would be helpful to have a basic knowledge of the disease or disability you are interested in addressing. For instance, with HIV/AIDS, one should familiarize themselves with the pathophysiology of the virus, available treatment options, disease statistics, modes of transmission, prevention strategies, including PEP and PrEP, testing, and resources available for those affected by HIV, including programs like HOPWA and TOPWA.”

HPM courses that prepared you for this Field Experience:

“The core courses in Epidemiology and Social and Behavioral Sciences provided very useful preparation and confidence to carry out duties in this field experience.”
Field Experience Type: Health Information Systems Organization

Purpose/Objectives:

“I worked with a team of individuals responsible for overseeing the transition of hospital systems from one EMR to another EMR through retraining and keeping the daily patient volume up and not disrupting the care of current in-treatment patients. My duties were to meet with different specialties and discuss their current process of patient flow in the office. After gathering the necessary information I created a process flow chart for each of those practices using Microsoft Visio. This was an extensive process and sometimes takes 4-6 revisions to complete roughly 50-60 steps each.”

Outcomes/Accomplishments:

“This completed project was forwarded to the new EMR design team for incorporation into their personalized EMR interface for each of those doctors/nurses/specialty. I reported regularly to my supervisor and team to improve efficiency and gain insight into and potential issues.”

Recommendations to students:

“My interest in electronic medical records influenced my decision to pursue a health information systems field experience. I think health information systems are marketable hard skills to offer to potential employers. Working with a healthcare information systems organization gave me insight where the future of healthcare is moving and how it is going to change the practice and delivery of medical care.”

HPM courses that prepared you for this Field Experience:

“The HPM course that was most essential for me to grasp EMR and big data was Health Information Systems which is offered during summer semesters.”
Field Experience Type: Consulting Company

Purpose/Objectives:

“The purpose of this field experience was to learn about the interactions of strategic healthcare advisors with other healthcare organizations in the field, in addition to learning about the resources and skills needed to contribute to a strategic healthcare advising firm. This field experience provided the opportunity to evaluate healthcare consulting as a possible career interest. Moreover, this field experience was useful in gaining skills in professional writing, communication, and marketing within the healthcare industry.”

Outcomes/Accomplishments:

“Research about emerging trends in the healthcare industry was used to develop a white paper for the consulting company. The white paper will be implemented on their website as a marketing tool to generate leads and grow client relationships. Professional writing skills and interpersonal skills were developed over the course of this field experience.”

Recommendations to students:

“For students considering a consulting group for their Field Experience site, I recommend having completed a majority of the coursework in the program as well as refining their professional writing skills. Other skills needed to be successful with consulting work include being self-motivated and self-disciplined.”

HPM courses that prepared you for this Field Experience:

“The courses which were most useful include Strategic Marketing and Planning, Health Economics and Healthcare Finance and Costing. Strong writing and communication skills are important to develop during coursework to prepare for this field experience.”
Field Experience Type: County Neighborhood Resource Center Internship

Purpose/Objectives:

“To identify health and wellness needs of patients utilizing NRC’s, develop interventions to address health needs at local community centers, evaluating programs for effectiveness, and the creating of an action plan for incoming field experience participants”

Outcomes/Accomplishments:

“Conducted social assessments in five Hillsborough county Neighborhood Resource Centers. I completed a data analysis of dental, nutritional, physical, and mental health of participants. I supported the development of interventions to address the findings from the social assessment.”

Recommendations to students:

“Have competencies in program planning, communication skills for facilitation of group exercises. Must be professional and demonstrate leadership, critical thinking skills, be flexible, and practice good ethics at all times.”

HPM courses that prepared you for this Field Experience:

“Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Principles of Health Policy and management, Health Services management, and Financial Management course were all integral to my success in this role. Students should have completed most, if not all, of these courses to be well prepared for this work.”