Information on the practical experience required for the Bachelor of Science in Psychology offered by the University of Münster, Germany

Dear Sir or Madam,

Since the academic year 2007/08 the University of Münster offers the study program Bachelor of Science in Psychology. The aim of this letter is to give information on the course work and requirements of this program that might be relevant for professional psychologists who offer internships to psychology students.

In order to finish the Bachelor of Science in Psychology students are required to complete 12 weeks of practical training. The main purpose for this requirement is that students are supposed to receive a realistic picture of professional fields of psychology and gain valuable insights into various psychological practices right from the beginning of the undergraduate studies. To ensure quality, the practical trainings have to be supervised by a professional psychologist who holds an academic degree in psychology.

The period of 12 weeks can be split into shorter periods of time, allowing students to look into different professions. Each practical experience is supposed to last a minimum of 4 weeks full time, but it is possible to obtain the practical training in part time as well. In part-time, 140 hours are equivalent to 4 weeks full-time work. Furthermore, the students can choose to complete their professional training in research institutions, but if so, only 210 hours can be spend at the University of Münster.

In their first year of studies, students take methodological classes in particular, such as descriptive and inferential statistics as well as computer based data analysis. They gain basic knowledge in working scientifically and get an insight into the basic psychological research areas such as biological psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology, personality psychology and general psychology.

The second year of the Bachelor program imparts fundamental knowledge in the three major areas of applied psychology. The students take introductory classes in clinical psychology, organizational psychology as well as educational psychology. Furthermore, the second Bachelor year comprises a broad training in the field of psychological assessment. The students receive theoretical input through lectures as well as practical training in psychological testing and communication skills.
Bachelor students finish their course program with advanced classes in two of the applied psychological areas. During the 5th and 6th semester they elect one so called specialization courses in order to deepen the knowledge in the chosen fields of psychology. These classes are project based and allow students to apply the theoretical knowledge on practical problems. An example of such course in the field of educational psychology is the conceptual design of a computer based learning environment.

Enclosed to this letter you find an overview of the program's structure of the B.Sc. Psychology. If you have any questions concerning the contents and requirements of this degree, please feel free to contact us.

We are hoping for your kind cooperation in order to allow students to receive a concerted academic as well as professional psychological training.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Günther Kebeck

Dipl.-Psych. Pascal Rickert