Developing the Learning Contract

Villeneuve, L. (1995). Cahier d'encadrement du stage supervisé. Montreal: Éditions Saint-Martin, p. 13-14

Goal

The goal of the learning contract is to make students accountable and motivate them to take an active part in their learning. It also tells the supervisor the supervisee's needs and what the training content should be. The contract comprises general objectives set by the educational institution and specific objectives hammered out by the student and the supervisor from a list provided by that institution or drawn up by the two partners. Additionally, the contract prescribes learning activities and pedagogical tools for achieving the stated objectives, the human and material resources required and the tools for measuring achievement. The written agreement is approved by the educational institution's agent.

• Link with Proposed Tools

The tools we propose in this section (Tools 2, 3 and 4) are used to develop the learning contract. That content provides guidelines for delivering learning and activities and directs the user in choosing which tools are appropriate for the supervised placement or clinical experience.

Instructions

- 1. Use the learning development guidelines and record the general and specific objectives you establish in the appropriate columns.
- 2. Decide on and plan activities to achieve the objectives (see *List of Training Activities and Tools* below).
- 3. Identify the necessary human and material resources, such as premises, audiovisuals, contact person, and so on.
- 4. Determine a realistic amount of time for achieving the objectives.
- 5. Choose the tools for evaluating achievement of those objectives (see *List of Training Activities and Tools*).
- 6. Have the partners (student and supervisor) sign the contract and have the signed document approved by the educational institution's agent (the coordinator).
- 7. Review the contract on a regular basis (About every three weeks), separately and together, to track the student's progress and make sure the objectives and activities remain relevant.
- 8. File the contract for use during the mid-term and end-term evaluations.

List of Training Activities and Tools

Action plan Analogy Analysis Audiovisuals Benchmark Brainstorming Calendar Case study Collage Comparison Conference Critical incident Decision making Description Direct observation Direct observation (one-way mirror) Discussion Documentation Drawing Integration activity Interview, family interview, group Interview, one-to-one Inventory

Journal List Pigors' method Planning worksheet Presentation Problem solving method Procedure Programmed method Questionnaire Reading Record **Relaxation-centration** Report Role playing Sculpture Seminar Simplified case method Narrative method Summary Synectics Synthesis Test Verbatim Visualization, mental imaging