
KNES 441-443-445 – PRACTICUM COURSE

**Practicum Position Title: Research Assistant,
Alberta Health Services, Cancer Control Alberta, Department of Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention
Research (CEPR)
The Alberta Moving Beyond Breast Cancer Research Study (AMBER Study).**

of Positions Available: 1-2

Location: Holy Cross Centre, 5th Floor – 2210 2 St SW, Calgary

Study Description: The AMBER Study is a cohort study that is looking to enroll 1500 newly diagnosed breast cancer patients in Alberta over a 5 year period. The health status of participants will be measured at baseline (within 1-2 months of surgery) and again at 1, 3, and 5 years post-diagnosis. The assessment includes a treadmill test to assess cardiopulmonary fitness, chest and leg presses to measure muscular strength and endurance, a sit and reach test to measure hamstring flexibility as well as assessments of grip strength, lymphedema, anthropometry and body composition with a DXA scan. Participants are also be asked to fill out questionnaires on basic demographic, health and medical history, diet, physical activity, stress, sleep quality, as well as objective measurements of activity taken by accelerometer. The participants will be followed for an additional 5 years through medical chart review. The overall aim of this study is to examine how physical activity and health-related fitness (e.g. physical fitness and body composition) can improve the quality of life for breast cancer survivors.

Required Hours: 60-72 hours per term; 5-6 hours per week

Academic Session: Fall and winter sessions

Specified Schedule: Hours to be determined. Monday to Friday 08:00 – 17:00 (practicum hours flexible)

Project Duties/Responsibilities may include the following:

- Assisting with collection of anthropometric measures (ie. height and weight, hip and waist circumferences, DXA, CT scan) and functional tests (grip strength, flexibility) at the time of the fitness tests and observe the sub-maximal and maximal treadmill tests and assist as needed.
- Assisting with the entry of data from the baseline questionnaires, accelerometers and exercise logs using TELEform® and Blaise® software data capture programs onto the computer systems maintained by AHS-CancerControl Alberta Department of Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention Research.
- Assisting with routine quality assurance queries on questionnaires logged, data entered, images saved and forms inventoried.
- Assisting with tracking study data and compiling reports.
- Assisting with initializing ActiGraph® and activPal™ accelerometers and downloading accelerometry data.
- Assisting with study coordination.
 - Assist with the on-going contact and scheduling of study participants.
 - Assists with the coordination of receipt, logging and inventory of incoming study materials and help maintain organizational systems for storage of study materials on-site.
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Student Qualifications:

- 20 HCE completed; minimum GPA of 3.4
- KNES 373 (Exercise Physiology) required
- Understanding of, or courses in the following topics: Epidemiology, Public Health, Research Methods Biostatistics, Biology/Physiology, Exercise Science

On-site Supervisor: Interested students should send an email to the following two individuals at Alberta Health Services-Cancer Control Alberta-Dept. of Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention Research (CEPR)

- Christine Friedenreich, PhD, Principal Investigator christine.friedenreich@ahs.ca – 403-698-8009
- Leanne Dickau, Study Coordinator, leanne.dickau@ahs.ca