

INTERNSHIP IN CRIMINOLOGY

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Office Hours: by appointment

This course is primarily designed for students who wish to acquire practical work experience in the criminal justice or legal advocacy field. Some students find placements in law firms, state agencies, courts, or social service organizations. In most cases these internships are unpaid, but in some cases they are paid positions. Undergraduates typically take this course in their junior or senior year as a way to find out more about what it is like to work in one of the many settings in the criminal justice or law field that sociology majors take jobs in after graduating from college. Strong written work will be expected in addition to the time spent and work done in connection with your actual internship placement. This academic work will enable you to think analytically and more in depth about intellectual interests arising out of your internship experience.

Note that **we will be meeting on 11/06 to discuss/share your internship experience and to refine final paper/project topics.**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. You must prepare a 3,000-4,000 word term paper *that in some way relates to your internship. Some students may choose to do a paper or project that may be of use to their placement. It may be useful to ask your supervisor at the outset if there is some issue that you could research that may be helpful to the organization.* This paper is due **12/4/06** (by 4:00 p.m.; put it in my mailbox in McGuinn 426). The paper must make extensive use of sociological concepts and demonstrate your ability to draw on sociological sources for your conceptualization. You must e-mail me by **10/30** to get your topic approved. You are strongly urged to make extensive use of academic sources; it is a mistake to base your paper primarily on newspaper, magazine, and internet sources. If you take this course pass/fail, you are exempt from this term paper requirement.
2. You must keep a journal with entries on at least a weekly basis. This journal will both summarize and analyze your internship experiences. It must be both descriptive and reflective. Your journal will be due on or before **12/04**. If your handwriting is very clear, there is no need to type it up. Be sure to include a summary at the end of what you got out of your internship experience including a discussion of what recommendations you may have for your making your workplace more effective.
3. You must spend at least 100 hours over the course of the term at your internship placement. This work must be completed on or before **12/04**. **This is approximately 10 hours a week.**
4. At your internship placement you must have a supervisor. This person must agree to submit a written evaluation of your work by **12/04**. This is to be a confidential letter to me. If your supervisor wants to e-mail the letter to me that is fine. It is your responsibility to make sure that letter has been sent and received.

COURSE GRADING:

The grade for the course will be determined on a point system as follows:

(50%) on the final paper

(50%) on Internship (based on information from the letter and journal)

COURSE READING:

Students will do a substantial amount of reading in connection with the term paper for this course. The paper should rely on at least 10 or more scholarly sources in addition to any other items from popular sources (e.g., the internet, media, magazines, textbooks, etc.).