

Syllabus
PSYC 4903
Psychology Internship
Spring, 2023

Coordinator: Paul C. Guthrie, Ph.D.
Office Hours: TBA
Class times: 1:00 – 3:00, 1/27, 2/24, 3/31, 4/28
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Location: TBD

Text: Baird, B. (2011). *The internship, practicum, and field placement handbook: A guide for the helping professions (6th ed.)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Note: You will not need to purchase this text: I will email the chapters to you as needed.

Course Description: The undergraduate psychology internship at MSU is an advanced elective available to psychology majors who have demonstrated academic achievement and a desire to explore the application of psychological principles in a “real-world” setting. This course is designed to provide you with supervised experience in a setting in which psychology is either practiced or psychological principles and knowledge are applied. The internship experience, along with your required readings, is the basis for monthly class discussions (seminar).

Course Objectives:

1. To provide paraprofessional level hands-on field experience in a community organization.
2. To gain “on-the-job” training experiences which will help successful trainees obtain employment in the human services area.
3. To use the ability to perceive and define human service needs and to generate tentative solutions for solving these issues by reading, observation and direct involvement.
4. To use and fine-tune self-assessment abilities of specific skills through site supervision, seminar group discussion, presentations and journal writing.

Course Prerequisites:

1. Psychology Major
2. Junior or Senior level.
3. GPA of 3.0 or higher
4. Be of good character and committed to helping people.

Course Requirements:

1. ON-SITE PLACEMENT – Minimum requirements are 100 hours over at least 10 weeks. Schedules and internship duties will be negotiated between you and your on-site supervisor, with input from the coordinator as needed. For ethical and practical reasons, you should not expect to provide professional services, but client contact, at a paraprofessional level, is an expected part of the internship experience.
2. INTERNSHIP SEMINAR – Seminar will meet monthly for one and a half hours. Interns are expected to attend all meetings; attendance is one component of your grade. Each intern will be expected to report on their internship activities during these meetings. These meetings are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on the last Friday of each month. Seminar dates will be on 1/27 (Chapters 1 – 3), 2/24 (Chapters 4 – 6), 3/31 (Chapters 7-9), and 4/28 (Chapters 10-11) for the Fall, 2022 semester.
3. LOG – For your time on-the-job, you will keep a daily log of activities. The log form will document your hours on the job, describe your activities very briefly and will be signed by your site supervisor to verify your accounting.
4. SITE EVALUATION BY SUPERVISOR – You will receive a rating and a letter grade for your performance at the internship site at the end of the semester.

Grades:

Your grade will be based on

1. Your evaluation by your on-site supervisor (70%)
2. The quality of your log (15%)
3. Attendance (15%)