PSCI 4380 - 4680 Political Science Internship
3 to 6 semester hours

Course description: This course is a supervised internship program. The course requires the completion of 80 hour of internship service for 3 SCH credit or 160 hours of internship service for 6 SCH credit to a local, state, or federal agency, interest group, or legislator’s office approved by the Internship Coordinator and by either the Director of Political Science or the department chair. Internship hours must be completed during the semester in which the student is enrolled in the course. Evaluation of performance in this course is on CR/NC basis. Volunteer hours completed prior to enrolling in this course will not be counted as internship hours for this course. May be repeated for up to 9 SCH.

Justification: Many of our students earn opportunities to work in government agencies and legislative offices such as the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute or the Luna Scholars legislative internship/fellowship program affiliated with the Senate Hispanic Caucus. This would grant them academic credit for this most valuable experience. Furthermore, several students have used their internship as a stepping stone to employment in government or other agencies.

Course Learning Objectives:
The objectives of the internship experience are to:

- Broaden student understanding of the functioning of government and related agencies or offices;
- Integrate and apply political science coursework to community, state, or nationally-based practice or research;
- Gain an understanding of the organization, administration, program activities, and problems of government or other political or community agencies;
- Improve student skills through on-the-job training; and
Allow the student to assume specific responsibilities for planning, implementing, administering, and/or evaluating some specific part of the agency's program(s).

Approvals:

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Chair
Department

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

Dean

04/2011