

## **IS 498: Internship**

Fall 2018 - Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 PM - GSE&IS Room 111

Course web site:

### **Instructor:**

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### **Office hours and location:**

GSE&IS Room 201  
Wednesdays, 2:00-5:00 PM (general)  
Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 PM (dedicated)  
Or by appointment (Skype/phone OK)

## **SYLLABUS**

### **Catalog description**

Supervised professional training in a library or information center approved by internship coordinator. Minimum of 120 hours per term. May be repeated twice. S/U grading.

### **Course Objectives**

- To acquire specialized competence through supervised work experience at the professional level
- To test basic professional competencies as well as the capacity to meet professional level performance requirements

### **Relationship to other courses**

Internships offer the opportunity to apply the theoretical understanding and ideal practices conveyed in core and elective classes to professional practice. Students should actively and critically reflect on how their professional experience in the internship site reflects, counters, or requires adaptation of what they have learned in their coursework. Internship experiences may also suggest directions for future coursework or focused study to support students' research interests and/or career directions.

### **Course requirements**

- Attendance at required class meetings in Week 1 (Oct. 4) and Week 10 (Dec. 6)
- Personal conference with the Internship class instructor during the quarter (to be scheduled by the student between Oct. 22-Nov. 9)
- Submission of written assignments via CCLE by due dates; submission of site evaluation by due date
- Completion of 120 hours of work at the internship site, as verified by site supervisor

### **Recommended reading**

There is no required text for this course, but reading management advice and case studies may provide helpful insights on situations you encounter in the workplace! There are many good ones out there, but I recommend these in particular for their concise, relevant, and constructive content:

*Ask a Manager*

<http://www.askamanager.org/>

*Center for Nonprofit Learning: Case Studies*

[http://www.nonprofit-learn.org/research\\_case\\_studies.aspx](http://www.nonprofit-learn.org/research_case_studies.aspx)

## Assignments/Evaluation

In addition to activities and projects you will be working on at your internship site, you will have specific assignments to complete for the classroom component of this course. **Unless otherwise specified, you should submit all assignments via CCLE.**

### *First quarter at internship site*

1. **Briefly explain what value you bring to the internship.** Take no more than a page or so (~250 words) to reflect on the following: How will you contribute to the business/functions of the site? Which of your past experiences, skills, or talents may be especially valuable in this setting? What perspectives or added value might you have to offer that another classmate or peer would not bring to the table? (Due Week 1 – Oct. 4)
2. **Goals & Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes** (Due Week 2 – Oct. 11)  
Meet with your site supervisor to determine what activities you will participate in and what projects you will work on during your internship. You and your site supervisor must develop this assignment together. The objectives/outcomes should directly align with or relate to the goals of an IS Internship as listed in the Course Objectives section above. In this assignment, be sure to link individual activities planned to an objective, to specific professional competencies, or to the expected learning outcomes. This assignment is not intended to be a laundry list of tasks, but it should include specific activities and document a plan that is collaboratively designed to be implemented within the time frame of the academic quarter.
3. **Site Description** (Due Week 6 – Nov. 8)  
Complete the online form at <https://goo.gl/forms/zaZuvjruLk8j3M1R2> with detailed information about your site. You may also turn in hard copies or upload (via CCLE) any brochures, handouts, orientation materials, or other documentation that will further describe your site.
4. Select and complete one **Paper/Project** from the choices below (Due Exam Week – Dec. 13). You may also propose a different final paper/project deliverable based on your work at the internship site; this proposal must be submitted for approval at least two weeks before the due date (no later than Nov. 22).
  - Prepare a 5-7 item annotated bibliography of readings and resources (books, journal articles, web sites, etc.) on a topic related to your internship site or project.
  - Submit a detailed outline or draft of a training document for a successor at your internship site. Include any improvements to the training you received, if needed.
  - Design/develop a conference session proposal on a topic related to your internship site or project. Include the proposal specifications from the conference CFP and full details on co-presenters, as appropriate.
  - Write a job description/posting for a full- or part-time position based on your internship, or on another needed role that you have identified at your site. Include at least 2-3 examples of similar positions and your basis for an estimated salary range, supply budget, and other costs.
  - Prepare a project proposal for an event, program, or strategic initiative at your internship site. This should include, at the very least, a description, justification, and estimated budget.
  - Research available grants and funding sources that might be relevant to your site and prepare a report on 3-5 funding opportunities. Include application deadlines, eligibility requirements, restrictions or matching requirements (if any), and identify which specific projects or initiatives might be supported with funds from each source.
  - Conduct an informational interview with a professional at your internship site or elsewhere to learn more about their career path, scope and duties of their position, etc.

*Second quarter at same internship site*

1. **Revisit or rewrite the goals and objectives of your internship** (Due in Week 2 – Oct. 11)  
Meet with your site supervisor to discuss and update priorities for this quarter of your internship. Describe any new/additional activities, projects, or objectives. Set goals for completion of project components or performance targets for large, ongoing projects. Will this period of time be a continuation of your previous work, or will you begin a new project, expand your role/responsibilities, or have other changes to your work? Consider developing at least one goal for yourself to accomplish this quarter, based on last quarter's experience. This might be a skill/interest/activity/task that was introduced last quarter that you want to expand or deepen; it may be a professional goal related to the internship project, such as presenting or publishing project outcomes.
2. **Identify professional reading** (Due in Week 6 – Nov. 8)  
**List at least 5** items of professional reading (books, manuals, journal articles, research reports, software, blogs, etc.) and **read at least 2** professional journals appropriate to your internship site this quarter. These resources should be separate from training materials you may have used; they should not be introductory reading, but should instead support continued mastery of your job and the field(s) of which it is part. Provide full and correct citations for these readings and briefly explain their relevance/value. For the journal readings, consult all issues that are current/published during the term of your internship (if the journal is a quarterly, go back far enough to read at least two issues).
3. **Professional Development Plan** (Due in Week 10 – Dec. 6)  
Ask what your site's policies and procedures are for supporting professional development of its staff, including what financial support is available for conferences, memberships, workshops, courses, training, or certification. Identify professional development opportunities of any kind that would be valuable for your professional growth (either as a staff member at this site, or for you more generally) for a one-year period of your choosing (next fiscal year, academic year, calendar year). Document all related costs and write a brief justification of the activities you identify.

*Third quarter at same internship site*

1. **Professional evaluation of internship site** (Due in Week 6 – Nov. 8)  
Prepare a site report that discusses the following aspects of your internship site and supervisor:
  - Management style
  - Collegiality and organizational culture
  - Professionalism
  - Quality of public service, work products
  - Quality of mentorship and support for professional development
  - Would you recommend this site to another professional?
2. **Identify professional activities** (Due in Week 10 – Dec. 6)  
Describe what is needed to advance or remain competitive as a member of your site's professional community. You might address the following criteria, or others:
  - Criteria for promotion or professional advancement
  - Activities in which you must participate to assure professional, intellectual, or skill advancement
  - What professional reading must you do?
  - What professional organizations are important?
  - What outside training/workshops/credentials are necessary?

- Is publishing or professional presentation of work expected or required?
- Is continuing education required?
- Describe the evaluation process for promotion or advancement at this site.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### **Week 1 (Oct. 4): Introduction and overview (REQUIRED)**

### **Week 5-7 (Oct. 29-Nov. 16): Personal conference with instructor (REQUIRED)**

You must schedule time to for a 30-minute, one-on-one meeting to discuss your internship experience during the quarter (at least three weeks after the start of your internship, and no more than two weeks before the end of the quarter). I will post a Doodle poll link with the available days/times for mid-term check-ins by the end of Week 1; please respond promptly to ensure you get the time that will be most convenient for you. If you cannot be on campus to meet in person at the time you select, please email me to arrange to do your check-in as a phone or Skype session instead.

**Optional, but strongly recommended:** Consider scheduling a mid-term check-in with your site supervisor for around the middle of the quarter, as well—even if you have regular contact with them during your internship work hours. A dedicated mid-term progress meeting can be a good time for you to receive constructive feedback from them on what you’re doing well, or areas where you might be able to improve.

### **Week 10 (Dec. 7): Final course meeting (REQUIRED)**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This syllabus is adapted from those developed for the UCLA Department of Information Studies’ Internship course by the previous Internship Program Coordinator, Keri Botello. I have made some refinements to the course structure and administrative processes, but the core pedagogical work here is hers. I appreciate and am committed to carrying forward her tradition of excellence in mentorship and collaboration with our community and professional partners.

In addition, many of the refinements I have made to the Internship class’s administrative processes are in response to thoughtful suggestions made by MLIS students Stephanie Erbe, Alexa Romero, and Ashley Vergara in their strategic review of the Internship program, conducted as part of Jean-François Blanchette’s IS 240 Management of Digital Records course in Fall 2016. Current and future students will certainly benefit from their constructive input here.