

University of North Texas at Dallas

Spring 2016

SYLLABUS

PSYC 4390 (001): Internship in Psychology; 3 Hrs			
Department of	Sociology & Psychology	School of	Liberal Arts & Sciences
Instructor Name:	Mario P. Casa de Calvo, Ph.D.		
Office Location:	DAL2 257		
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Email Address:	mario.casadecalvo@untDallas.edu		
Office Hours:	M & W from 1:00 – 5:00; T & TR from 1:00 – 4:00; by appointment		
Classroom Location:	DAL2 212		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	TUTR from 8:30-9:50		
Course Catalog Description:	Supervised professional research, and/or service work in the community. May be repeated one time for credit toward overall degree requirements.		
Prerequisites:	Consent of instructor. Psychology major.		
Course Goals or Overview: The goals of this course are as follows -			
	<p>This course will provide experiential, “hands on” learning in an applied context that is relevant to students’ career interests. Students will work with the internship instructor to locate an internship opportunity that exists in the community. The student is then responsible for serving the internship site for 100 hours over the course of the semester. This internship experience will: 1) give the students the opportunity to network with others in their field of interest, thereby creating the possibility of future job placements, letters of recommendation, etc., 2) give the students the experience necessary to determine whether or not their intended career choice is the best path for them, 3) allow students to see the applicability and usefulness of their psychology degree, and 4) be able to integrate their internship experiences with their coursework at UNT-D (via the journal).</p>		
Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, learners will be able to:			
1	Students will gain experience within their field of interest.		
2	Students will gain the experience necessary to make an informed decision about their future career pursuits.		
3	Students will develop higher level critical thinking and writing skills.		
4	Students will develop stronger presentation skills.		
5	Students will reflect on and integrate their internship experiences with academic, professional, and personal goals (via journal).		
6	Students will gain the opportunity to network with others in their field of interest, thereby creating the possibility of future job placements, letters of recommendation, etc.		

Internships in Psychology

Internships through the Psychology major are intended to help UNT-Dallas students to achieve valuable training and work experiences, as well as to provide needed assistance to social service organizations and other agencies to help them achieve their goals.

The internship possibilities available to psychology students are vast. Because psychology is described as the “scientific study of thought, feeling, and behavior”, interns with a psychology background can successfully fill many roles and make great contributions to many agencies and to the people these agencies serve. For example, psychology interns may work closely with agencies treating people experiencing various types of psychological difficulties, developmental disabilities, and life trauma. Others may work with children from families in poverty, the homeless, and university students. Newer opportunities may connect interns with organizations that serve seniors, refugees, and prisoners and parolees, among others. In short, there are a number of internship possibilities for psychology students.

Students interested in particular internships may often pursue these opportunities after discussing them with the internship instructor (Dr. Casa de Calvo). Initially, Dr. Casa de Calvo and the student will discuss the student's interests. Next, the student will contact the relevant person at the agency or agencies that the student is interested in working with. Typically, the contact person at the agency will meet with the student to discuss internship possibilities. If the student and the contact person at the agency agree to an internship for the student, the student, internship instructor, and site supervisor (the person who will be supervising the intern at the relevant agency) will sign a form that establishes where the student will be completing the internship, including the number of internship hours (**i.e., 100**). Additionally, all students must sign a non-disclosure statement.

The hour requirements for internships are as follows: ***A student must complete 100 hours of work at an internship site for a three-credit internship. These hours are non-negotiable!*** The student and the site supervisor are responsible for developing a schedule that will help the student meet the hour requirement.

Internship grades are determined by several factors. First, each student will create both a LinkedIn profile and an electronic portfolio (via Optimal Resume) that will allow students to a) build a network of potential internship sites, b) build a resume that will help them secure an internship, and c) document the behavioral activities of their internships. Each student must keep a time log sheet that documents the hours they spend at their internship site. All students will be evaluated during the mid-point of the semester by their site supervisors. Additionally, near the end of the semester, the site supervisor will be asked to recommend a grade for the student who completed the internship, based on his or her observations of the student's performance. Student will submit their portfolios that document their experiences during the internship, and the material provided in the portfolio will also affect the grade that is ultimately assigned by the internship instructor. Portfolios of extraordinary quality may allow for final grades higher than those recommended by the site supervisor, and mediocre or low quality portfolios may result in poorer grades than those suggested by the site supervisor.

The internship portfolio should document, week-by-week, the student's experiences at his or her internship site, and should also reflect on how these experiences relate to the field of psychology and the student's own academic experiences in the major. Weekly entries do not necessarily need to be tremendously long, but they should be sufficiently lengthy to communicate the duties performed by the student, and to comment on how these experiences have affected the student's understanding of human thought, feeling, and behavior. ***Completed portfolios and supervisor evaluation forms must be submitted to Dr. Casa de Calvo no later than the last day of classes each semester to receive credit. Otherwise a grade of F will be issued for the student.*** Finally, students will present the content of their internship portfolios to their fellow UNT-D interns enrolled in the internship course during our assigned final exam time (**TBD**). Presentations should be approximately 10-12 minutes in length.

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

		Points
(1)	Electronic Portfolio (Optimal Resume)	100
(2)	Time Log Sheet	50
(3)	Mid-Semester Evaluation	50
(4)	Development of LinkedIn Profile	50
(5)	Internship Evaluation by Site Supervisor	100
(6)	Quality of Student Portfolio	100
(7)	Presentation of Internship Portfolio	<u>50</u>
	Total Points Possible	500