

*- Course Information -*

<b>University:</b>	University of Nebraska at Omaha
<b>College:</b>	Arts and Sciences
<b>Curriculum:</b>	Religion
<b>Number:</b>	4000
<b>Type:</b>	Practicum
<b>Title:</b>	Religious Studies Internship
<b>Short title:</b>	Internship
<b>Effective term:</b>	Spring 2015
<b>Graduate non-degree students:</b>	Not allowed
<b>Can course be taken for credit multiple times?</b>	Yes
<b>Number of total hours:</b>	6

*- Credit Hours Information -*

<b>Type:</b>	Variable
<b>Hours:</b>	1 (minimum)
	6 (maximum)

*- Cross-listing and/or Dual-listing (UG/G) Information -*

<b>Courses:</b>	Not applicable
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*- Duplication Information (not to be used for cross/dual-listings) -*

<b>Curriculum:</b>	Not applicable
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*- 1.0 Course Description Information -*

## 1.1 Catalog description:

A supervised internship enabling students to develop and apply knowledge and gain expertise related to the field of Religious Studies while working at a non-profit, educational, non-governmental or related organization. The host organization for the student must be approved in advance in consultation with the internship coordinator and the Chair of Religious Studies. This course may be repeated for a maximum of six credit hours.

## 1.2 Prerequisites of the course:

Junior or senior. Religious Studies major, Religious Studies minor, or concentration in Religious Studies. Permission of internship coordinator.

## 1.3 Overview of content and purpose of the course:

An internship is a short-term work experience that combines academic coursework and experiential learning. By working with an organization in a field that is related in some way to the academic discipline of Religious Studies, students gain a greater appreciation for the practical applications of a major, minor or concentration in Religious Studies. Students also develop writing competence, critical thinking, and other project skills in a professional context. This internship will allow students to investigate potential career paths and to develop new skills and contacts that will be helpful in securing future employment and/or graduate school admission.

## 1.4 Unusual circumstances of the course:

None.

*- 2.0 Course Justification Information -*

## 2.1 Anticipated audience / demand:

This course is for upper-level Religious Studies majors and minors, as well as for juniors or seniors doing a concentration in Religious Studies.

2.2 Indicate how often this course will be offered and the anticipated enrollment:

This course will be offered every semester. The anticipated enrollment is two to five undergraduate students per semester.

2.3 If it is a significant change to an existing course please explain why it is needed:

n/a

- *3.0 Objective Information* -

Is this course part of or being proposed for the General Education curriculum?

No

3.1 List of performance objectives stated as student learning outcomes:

Learning objectives will vary by the internship assignment and will be developed by the internship coordinator on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the host organization. In general terms, successful students will be able, through written and verbal means, to:

- describe the organization, including its purposes, target populations and challenges it encounters
- in conjunction with the internship coordinator and supervisor at the placement, identify a task or range of tasks that will apply and develop the intern's knowledge of Religious Studies while contributing in a practical and useful manner to the organization's needs
- comply with the terms of the internship
- at the end of the internship, articulate how the objectives of the internship were achieved
- integrate knowledge gained in the academic field of Religious Studies with the tasks required by the host organization and, by the end of the internship, be able to express this integration
- at the end of the internship, identify knowledge and skills gained and, with the help of the internship coordinator, express these in ways suitable for a resume or graduate school application

3.2 General Education Student Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, successful students shall be able to do the following:

- *4.0 Content and Organization Information* -

4.1 List the major topics central to this course:

The specific organization and content of this course will vary depending upon the interest of the student, the needs of a host organization, and the internship coordinator. Internships are conducted on a case-by-case basis, which allows the internship coordinator to build an internship experience that suits the goals and interests of the student as well as the requirements of the host organization.

- *5.0 Teaching Methodology Information* -

5.1 Methods:

The teaching methodology of this course is experiential in nature, providing students with hands-on learning.

5.2 Student role:

Work hours, activities, and responsibilities will be specified in a written agreement between the student the internship director and the supervisor at the host organization. This agreement will then be reviewed and signed by the Chair of Religious Studies.

For each credit hour earned, interns are expected to work on average about three hours per week for the host organization. In addition to the duties assigned by the host organization, students are expected to keep a time log, a weekly journal, and to write a short paper profiling the organization and their work in it, including reference to relevant academic literature that relates to insight gained during the internship. In addition, at least twice during the semester the student will meet with the internship coordinator and a representative of the sponsoring

organization to review the student's progress. At the end of the internship, students will meet with the internship coordinator to reflect upon the experience and to express what was learned in ways suitable for a resume or graduate school application.

#### - 6.0 Evaluation Information -

Students should be provided the actual list of projects, basis for determining the final grade, and grading scale at the beginning of each course.

6.1.1 Describe the typical types of student projects that will be the basis for evaluating student performance:

Student projects will be determined by the internship coordinator and host organization and communicated to student at the start of the term. What follows is one possible example.

- Evaluation by the host organization
- Evaluation by the internship coordinator
- Time log
- Weekly journal
- Final paper
- CV or resume development

6.2 Describe the typical basis for determining the final grade (e.g., weighting of various student projects):

Weighting of projects will be determined by the internship coordinator and communicated to students at the start of the term. What follows is one possible example.

- Evaluation by the host organization (30%)
- Evaluation by the internship coordinator (30%)
- Time log (5%)
- Weekly journal (10%)
- Final paper (20%)
- CV or resume development (5%)

6.3 Grading type:

Letter grades

#### - 7.0 Resource Material Information -

7.1 Textbook(s) or other required readings used in course:

The required reading will vary depending upon the interest of the student and internship coordinator.

7.2 Other student suggested reading materials:

Palmer, Parker J. and Arthur Zajonc (2010). *The Heart of Higher Education: A Call To Renewal*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass (Wiley).

7.3 Current bibliography and other resources:

Adams, S., (2012). How to make the most of your internship. *Forbes.com* 7/3/2012, 36.

Braskamp, L. A. and L. Trautvetter, et al. (2006). *Putting Students First: How to Develop Students Purposefully*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

D'Abate, C., Youndt, M., & Wenzel, K. (2009). Making the most of an internship: An empirical study of internship satisfaction. *Academy of Management Learning & Education*, 8(4), 527-539.

Green, B.P., Graybeal, P., & Madison, R. (2011). An exploratory study of the effect of professional internships on students' perceptions of the importance of employment traits. *Journal of Education for Business*, 86(2), 100-110.

Kiser, P. (2007) *The Human Services Internship: Getting the Most from Your Experience*. Boston: Cengage Learning.

Knouse, S.B. & Fontenot, G. (2008). Benefits of the business college internship: A research review. *Journal of Employment Counseling*, 45(2), 61-66.

Moghaddam, J.M. (2011). Perceived effectiveness of business internships: Student expectations, experiences, and personality traits. *International Journal of Management*, 28(4), 287-303.

Narayananan, V.K., Olk, P.M., & Fukami, Cy.V. (2010). Determinants of internship effectiveness: An exploratory model. *Academy of*

Management Learning & Education, 9(1), 61-80.

Palmer, J. and A. Zajonc (2010). *The Heart of Higher Education: A Call To Renewal*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass (Wiley).

Tyler, K. (2012). Must-have: An HR internship. HR Magazine, 57(5). 31-38.

- 8.0 Other Information -

8.1 Accommodations statement:

Accommodations are provided for students who are registered with UNO Disability Services and make their requests sufficiently in advance. For more information, contact Disability Services (MBC 111, Phone: 402.554.2872, TTY: 402.554.3799) or visit the web at <http://www.unomaha.edu/disability>.

8.2 Other:

\* 8.3 Author(s):

Michele Marie Desmarais