

## SOCIOLOGY 493: INTERNSHIP IN SOCIAL WELFARE

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**COURSE CREDIT:** 3 Semester Hours

**PREREQUISITES:** Completion of Sociology 352 and Sociology 470 or completion of Sociology 352 and concurrent registration in Sociology 470.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students are placed in a supervised internship with a human services agency in the community. Students volunteer time and effort in exchange for practical experience. Service areas suitable for internship placements include social services for families and children, community mental health, domestic violence treatment and prevention, emergency services for the homeless, social services for the elderly in institutional settings, and hospice services, to mention only a few possibilities.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course objectives for students are as follows:

- To provide the Student with practical experience and skills (1) necessary to be an effective employee in human services settings; or (2) to pursue admission into a graduate program in sociology or social work.
- To provide the Student with an opportunity to apply the knowledge gained from sociology and social welfare courses to real life “helping” situations.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS;

The course requirements are as follows:

- The Student will locate a suitable agency and will enter into a **Social Welfare Internship Agreement** with the agency. On Exhibit A of the **Social Welfare Internship Agreement**, Student and agency shall describe the activities of the Student while participating as an intern, shall state the date for the commencement of the internship, shall state the date for the completion of the internship, and shall state the number of hours per week that the student will participate as an intern.
- The Student will complete at least 120 hours of internship experience in an agency setting. The Student will record the number of hours spent in internship activities on a **Time Log**. The agency supervisor should sign a **Time Log** weekly. The Student shall submit the **Time Logs** to the course instructor at the intervals specified in the *Assignment Deadlines* section of the study guide.
- The Student will keep a **Journal** of activities, impressions, and reactions to the internship experience. The **Journal** shall be well written, edited, and typed (using

12-point font size and New Roman font). A minimum of two typed pages per eight hours of agency contact is required; this yields a minimum of thirty pages of **Journal** entries for the entire internship. The Student shall submit the **Journal** entries to the course instructor at the intervals specified in *Assignment Deadlines* section of the study guide.

- The Student shall prepare a **Student Evaluation of the Internship Experience, which** shall consist of at least four pages, typed and double-spaced. The Student will deliver this evaluation to the course instructor upon completion of the internship.
- The agency shall provide a note or letter to the Student, signed by the agency supervisor, which will indicate whether or not the Student satisfied the agency's expectations in connection with the internship. The Student will deliver the note or letter to the course instructor upon completion of the internship.
- The Student must comply with the requirements of the agency as to any application for the intern position (in some cases possibly including a background check or fingerprinting), attendance, punctuality, appearance, behavior, and confidentiality.