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PSYX 398.01: Service Learning Internship

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Psychology 298/398 Service Learning Internship Syllabus

Fall 2018

Instructor Information

Supervisor: Dr. Paul Silverman

Office: 366 Skaggs

Email: paul.silverman@umontana.edu (the best way to contact me).

Phone: (406) 240-1173

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30-12:20; Tuesdays 2:00-3:00pm, or by appointment

About service learning

Service learning is a method of teaching and learning in which students, faculty, and community partners work together to enhance student learning by applying academic knowledge in a community-based setting. Student work addresses the needs of the community, as identified through collaboration with community or tribal partners, while meeting instructional objectives through faculty-structured service work and critical reflection meant to prepare students to be civically responsible members of the community. A Service Learning course counts as an Honors course in fulfillment of the Davidson Honors College graduation requirements. A UM student may accrue up to six Service Learning credits.

About the course

This website is listed under Psyx 398 but is also used by students enrolled in Psyx 298. Course requirements are identical. Psyx 298 is the entry level service learning course in the Psychology Department, while Psyx 398 is an upper level available to students who have already earned 298 credits or who have previous extensive experience with social service internships or work. Students can earn up to 6 credits of Psyx 298 but only a maximum of 3 credits of Psyx 398. Be aware that at UM students can enroll only for a total of 6 credits of service learning while at UM.

Course Requirements:

- **Internship Services Learning Agreement.** You will need to complete a Learning Agreement through “Hand Shake” on the Internship Services website:
<http://www.umn.edu/internships/employer/InternshipApprovalEvaluation.php>
This provides a means of communication between your site supervisor and your academic supervisor and provides a record of your Service Learning placement. Complete the Agreement Form identifying whether you have registered for PSYX298 or 398, with the appropriate CRN. You will find more information about this in the “Internship Information” section of PSYX398 Moodle.
- **SL Site.** Attend to your duties at your SL site as determined by your SL site supervisor. Your SL site supervisor will need to complete necessary forms at the end of the semester in order to document your work.

- **Moodle Class/Discussion Questions.** Attend your SL online class through Moodle. The class is labeled: PSYX 398 Internship: (Section: 0174040, Fall 2018). In addition to gaining practical experience in the community, students participating in service learning are expected to reflect on their experiences and share those experiences with others. Participation in bi-weekly discussions is required and will allow you to reflect on the SL experience and post questions/comments for discussion with your peers. There will be six discussions during the semester. With each posted discussion question, you are required to create an initial response as well as respond to at least one comment created by your peers. (This will amount to at least 12 posts throughout the semester.)
- **Keep a Reflective Journal.** Reflection is considered a key component of service learning. (See handout for ideas on how to journal reflectively.) The journal can be maintained electronically or handwritten. You will turn this in at the end of the semester on December 10.
- **Give an 8-10 minute presentation** about your SL experience (see handout). We will meet as a group in person during the last two weeks of the semester in order to accomplish this. Time and date will be determined by doodle poll.
- **Keep track of your hours** throughout the semester (45 hours = 1 credit hour). Activities that count towards your hours are as follows:
 - Time spent at the SL site working
 - Time spent attending the online Moodle class
 - Time spent journaling (reflective journaling; see handout)
 - Time spent researching and writing your 10 page literature review (see handout)
 - Time spent preparing your end-of-semester presentation (see handout)
 - Time spent presenting and watching your peers present the end-of-semester presentations
- Complete a simple end of the semester **evaluation** about the organization you worked with to aid future students in finding an appropriate internship experience (see handout).
- **Turn in** journal and list of hours at the end of the semester to me electronically to paul.silverman@umontana.edu or in person (Skaggs 366 during office hours or by appointment).

Required hours

45 hours is equivalent to one PSYX credit:

45 hours = 1 credit

90 hours = 2 credits

135 hours = 3 credits, etc. up to 3 credits of Psyx 298; 6 credits of Psyx 398 (only a total of 6 credits of 298 and 398 combined is permitted).

****Time spent on journals/class discussions counts toward your final hours.**

If you are having difficulty meeting your hours, please contact your faculty supervisor as soon as possible.

Conduct

See [UM student conduct code](#) for detailed information. Please be polite and respectful to all involved in the course. Carefully consider the content and tone of your response when posting comments for discussion. **When talking about your internship, please be sure to keep all information about individual clients strictly confidential.**

Grading (100 points possible):

Your grade is determined from performance on the following:

1. Turning in your **journal and record of hours** on time and the quality and content of your journal. The journal should include a record of your hours engaged in the service learning activity at the agency; a description of the events and activities that you are engaged in; and your personal reflections about the significance and meaning of the events and activities. You will be evaluated on the quality of your writing, the quality and quantity of your work and accomplishments, and the quality of your insights as you reflect on your work. (25 points possible; 25% of final grade)
2. The **site supervisor's evaluation** of your work. This includes assessment of dependability, attitude, work relationships, self-management, and learning of required skills and knowledge. **Your faculty supervisor must have an evaluation from your site supervisor in order for you to get a grade.** This process is typically handled electronically through [Internship Services](#) (where you registered your online learning agreement). (50 points possible; 50% of final grade)
3. **Attendance and participation in discussion via Moodle.** You are expected to respond to the 6 questions/comments for discussion over the course of the semester. You are also expected to respond to at least one comment created by your peers (6 times; 12 posts total). (15 points possible; 15% of final grade)
4. **End of Semester Presentations.** We will meet as a group in person during the last two weeks of the semester. The time and date will be determined by doodle poll. During this meeting you will give an 8-10 minute presentation (poster, power point, etc.) regarding your SL experience (see details in the handout). (10 points possible; 10% of final grade)

Your course grade will correspond to total points as follows: A = 459-510; B = 408-458; C = 357-407; D = 306-356; F = 0-305..

Academic Accommodation:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#) (umt.edu/dss). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson

Center 154 or call 406-243-2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification