
Seattle Pacific University
Department of Psychology
Internship PSY 4940

The course, PSY 4940 Internship in Psychology, is designed to integrate vocational experience with academic theory. Learned concepts and methods are applied in a psychological setting while under the direction of faculty and on-site supervisors. As an intern, the student is able to develop practical skills in psychology and confidence working in the professional world, while serving the community, exploring career options in psychology, and earning credits toward a psychology major. Internship experiences include psychological work in counseling organizations, social services, educational settings, and evaluation research programs. Psychology internships not only help students to begin career-related work experience prior to graduation, they also assist students who choose to apply for graduate programs in psychology.

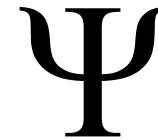
What is the best tip for making the process of securing an internship as stress-free as possible?

Plan! Plan! Plan! Don't wait until the last minute — during the last week of registration of the last quarter of your last year at SPU — to investigate internship possibilities. Remember that it takes time to determine the site that will best fit your vocational interests, your travel limitations, or your financial needs. It also takes time to meet with all of the necessary people before you can register for credits. Keep in mind that they have busy schedules and may have difficulty fitting in an appointment with you at the last minute. And, since the internship can serve as a stepping stone for future educational and vocational pursuits, you want to make a good first impression during those initial interviews, right?! As well, there may (or may not) be other students who are also seeking an intern position at the same site that you have chosen. If you put off planning your internship, you may not get the site you prefer. So plan! Plan! Plan! The internship can be an opportunity to expand your training in psychology in the area in which you have the greatest interest. Take the time and energy to make the most of it.

Seattle Pacific University
Department of Psychology Internship PSY
4940

Seattle Pacific University
Department of Psychology
Internship

PSY 4940



Ursula Krentz, Ph.D.,
Faculty Supervisor
Seattle Pacific University
Office Location:
Marston 119
Phone: 206-281-2872
Fax: 206-281-2695
Email: krentu@spu.edu

PSY 4940

Psychology Internship: Questions & Answers

What requirements must I meet in order to do an internship?

- (1) You must be a Psychology major.
- (2) You must be a Junior or Senior.
- (3) You must have finished at least 1 quarter (12 units) as a matriculated student at SPU.

Keep in mind as well that the internship is designed to expand your understanding of previous coursework in psychology. So, for example, if you're thinking about a placement serving the mentally ill, you should have successfully completed PSY 4460 Abnormal Behavior.

What requirements does my internship site need to meet for me to earn college credit?

- (1) Intern duties must be psychological in nature.
- (2) Intern work must be overseen by an on-site supervisor who has at least a Masters degree in a relevant psychological field.
- (3) The supervisor must agree to provide ongoing formative evaluations and a formal final evaluation of your work.
- (4) The site must provide at least 5 hours of experiential learning per week.

Can I turn my present job into a psychology internship experience?

Yes, this is also a possibility. You'll need first to discuss this with a Career Counselor. Please note that you may not receive credit retroactively for work already completed.

How many credits can I earn as an intern?

You may earn 1-5 credits of psychology internship per quarter, depending on the number of hours at your intern site. The minimum number of hours at any site are 5 per week.

5 hours/week = 1-2 credits

7.5 hours /week = 3 credits

10 hours/week = 4 credits

12.5 hours/week = 5 credits

So how do I set up an internship for myself?

Step #1: Pick up the latest edition of the 'Psychology Internship Handbook' and a yellow 'Learning Contract' form the table outside Dr. Marshall's office in Marston Hall. Read the Handbook from cover to cover! Check out the list of possible internships on the undergraduate psychology bulletin board. This not an exhaustive list, just suggestions. If you have a site you are interested in that is not on the list, contact Dr. Krentz and discuss it with her. Also, you can find lists of internships at Interncenter, a link from the CDC home page. There you'll read about sites where previous students have secured internships. Finally, if you are having trouble finding a site, go to the Career Development Center and any of the counselors can help you explore your options.

Step #2: Once you have found an internship site, meet with your supervisor and discuss your

duties and create an appropriate job title. Fill out the Learning Contract with your supervisor and ask him/her to sign it. If possible, pick up a business card from your supervisor to give to your faculty sponsor, Dr. Krentz.

Step #3: Contact Dr. Krentz at SPU (krentu@spu.edu) and set up an appointment. Bring your *completed and signed* yellow 'Learning Contract' and the business card to your appointment in her office, Marston 119. Dr. Krentz will talk with you about your internship and, if the arrangement seems appropriate, she'll sign your 'Learning Contract.'

Step #4: Bring your signed 'Learning Contract' to the Registrars in order to register for the pre-arranged number of internship credits. That's it! You're ready to start the internship!

Step #5: Show up for the internship seminar starting the second Wednesday of the quarter (see time schedule for place and time). You will receive your syllabus at that time.

What if I want to do my internship away from Seattle, or if I have other special circumstances? On occasion, students do have unique circumstances with internships. These situations are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Email Dr. Krentz and discuss your situation with her.

Can I earn money while completing a psychology internship? Yes, this is a possibility. Not all sites offer a stipend for interns, but some do.

