

# Sociology 350N Internship

## **Brief Description:**

This is a special course that has no regular class meetings, but provides the student with the opportunity to conduct fieldwork. The course allows a student to serve as an unpaid intern for an agency, organization or business in the Austin area in exchange for three hours of upper-division sociology credit. The student is expected to work under the daily supervision of someone at the agency or organization for approximately 10 hours per week in a long session, or more if the course is taken in a six-week summer session. The work should be related to the academic sociological interests of the student. The student must select a Sociology professor to oversee the internship, and it is with this professor that the student will complete a contract for the course prior to enrolling. This contract is submitted to the Sociology Undergraduate Faculty Advisor for approval. Upon approval, the student must register for the course in the Sociology Advising Office, BUR 230.

Although students' intended faculty supervisors may be able to suggest possible internships, students are encouraged to find internship opportunities on their own. The UT Volunteer Center maintains a searchable database of volunteer opportunities on their website, <http://www.utexas.edu/depts/dos/uvvc/>, and this can be an excellent place to seek out possible internships. The Sociology Undergraduate Advising office often also has information on internship opportunities.

## **Prerequisites:**

Upper-division standing (60+ hours of completed coursework), completion of at least 9 hours of sociology courses, and an overall GPA of 3.0.

## **Objectives:**

To provide the student with the opportunity to directly experience, observe, and study a particular social organization (or social problem) as it is actually found in the Austin area. Such firsthand experience is intended to supplement the student's academic study of sociology.

## **Internship Placement:**

To be arranged by the student with the assistance of the faculty supervisor. Note that all internship placements require the approval of the Department of Sociology.

## **Course Requirements:**

The exact details of the requirements for this course must be prepared in writing, and be submitted as part of the course contract to the faculty supervisor and Undergraduate Faculty Advisor. The following requirements are mandatory for all students enrolled in this course:

1. Satisfactory completion of the assigned work involving approximately 10 hours per week. This must be certified by the field supervisor.
2. Maintenance of a weekly (or daily) journal describing student's work experiences and reflections regarding the organization.
3. At least two meetings with the faculty supervisor to discuss the work experience, and an additional final meeting with the faculty supervisor in which the student summarizes what has been learned from the internship experience.
4. A term paper involving a serious sociological discussion and analysis of issues or experiences relevant to the student's intern experience. It is expected that the paper will include a review of relevant theory and previous literature pertaining to the topic of investigation. Students are advised not to take

this course if they are not prepared to complete a serious paper of this sort.

**Evaluations:**

The grade for this course is determined by the faculty supervisor and should reflect the extent to which the student successfully completes the course requirements. The details of the grading criteria must be clearly stated by faculty supervisor, and these criteria should be noted in the 350N contract at the start of the course. Furthermore, the faculty supervisor from the Department of Sociology assigns the student's grade for this internship, and this grade may not necessarily coincide with the recommendation that might be offered by the field supervisor.

# 350N Sociology Internship Approval Form

Semester and unique number: \_\_\_\_\_ Student EID \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Prerequisites:

Students must be eligible for upper division coursework (completion of 60 hours of total course credit).

Sociology courses

(9 hours of completed Sociology coursework prior to start of internship)

Course	Semester	Grade	UT course?
_____	_____	_____	Yes No
_____	_____	_____	Yes No
_____	_____	_____	Yes No

Total credit hours completed: \_\_\_\_\_ UT hours completed: \_\_\_\_\_ UT GPA (3.0 required): \_\_\_\_\_

**Course contract (on the reverse of this form) must be completed prior to approval.**

**Upon approval, it is the student's responsibility to add this course in person in the Sociology Advising Office, Burdine 230.**

THIS COURSE CANNOT BE USED FOR SUBSTANTIAL WRITING COMPONENT CREDIT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervising Professor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sociology Faculty Undergraduate Advisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

## Course Contract

**Topic of Course:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervising Professor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of internship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person and phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Course goals/purpose:**

**Brief description of duties/responsibilities:**

**Assignments (schedule of meetings with supervisor, daily or weekly journal, etc.):**

**Grading (details of grading criteria must be clearly stated by supervising professor):**