The Internship Seminar provides SFASU students an academic component that compliments work experience in government and politics through a legislative internship in Austin during the legislative session. The goal of the seminar is to help students make the most of their internships by reflecting thoughtfully and analytically on their experience in the organizations in which they work.

**Learning Objectives**

The learning objectives of the internship program are:

1. To provide students with practical work experience in government and politics;
2. To connect experience in public service with analysis of political science literature on democratic goals and civic responsibility;
3. To use interns’ experiences to build an understanding of the functioning of government institutions; and
4. To use interns’ experience to prepare students for careers.

Students receive seminar credit for successfully completing the internships and integrating that experience with course work.

**BOOKS**

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- Attendance at mandatory group meetings and Guest Speaker Series
- Process or policy analysis paper
- Full-time employment in Austin, beginning first day of the legislative session and continuing until the final day of the regular legislative session.

*NOTE: All requirements must be fulfilled to receive credit for the course.*

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 8</td>
<td>First day of Legislative session</td>
<td>Your internship should be set up and you should start work</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Last day of legislative session</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Deadline for paper</td>
<td>Please use the Dropbox feature of D2L.</td>
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**GRADE CALCULATION**

Final paper 100%
This 3 credit course requires working in a full-time internship in Austin as well as at least 6 hours of out-of-class reading and writing, each week over the course of the legislative session.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

*Definition of Academic Dishonesty*

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Program Learning Outcomes**

In any given semester, one or more of the following program learning outcomes for the political science major may be addressed in this course.

1. The student will clearly articulate hypotheses.
2. The student will critically analyze and critique political institutions and/or complex contemporary political issues.
3. The student will demonstrate effective oral communication skills.
4. The student will develop a coherent research design.
5. The student will execute a well-developed research paper.