PSYC 409 – Psychology Internship
Department of Psychology

Semester Spring 2020
Instructor:  Michael Walker, PhD
Course Time & Location: Determined by site supervisor
Office: 215H Office hours: by appointment
Office Phone: 936.468.4402 Credits: 3 hours
Email: mwalkersfasu.edu

Course Description: Supervised work experience in an approved experience related to post-graduation goals.

Prerequisites:
- Ordinarily, the student must have a cumulative 2.0 GPA or above, completed at least two upper-level courses in the major, and be of junior or senior standing.
- The student must have the consent of a faculty member who is willing to serve as the sponsor for the internship. The faculty member, in consultation with the chair, may require the completion of specific supporting courses as prerequisites to the internship.
- Internship guidelines must be completed and signed by the student, the internship supervisor, and the sponsoring faculty member. At a minimum, the guidelines must set out the objectives, the work requirements and timetable, and the grading option and criteria. The chair and Dean must approve the guidelines before the end of the registration period for the semester.

Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives (Program/Student Learning Outcomes):
1. This course links with SFA Initiative #4: Develop a learner-centered environment.
2. This course links with SFA Initiative #5: Create new learning opportunities through additional interdisciplinary, international, service learning, and civic engagement experiences.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. To provide an opportunity to observe, practice and apply theories and techniques learned in the classroom.
2. To provide an opportunity to become acquainted with a variety of discipline related fields, programs and professions.
3. To provide an opportunity to recognize leadership strengths and limits and to help alleviate weaknesses through concentrated work experience.
4. To provide an opportunity to develop insights and perspectives related to future goals.
5. Other site-specific goals and outcomes identified by the student and approved by the internship supervisor.
Internship Sites:
- To provide an opportunity to assist in the preparation of future community health leaders.
- To provide an opportunity to recruit trained leaders and evaluate students for later employment.
- To enlarge the available staff which will allow for variations and for an increase in health activities.
- To provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas between professionals and students.

The following criteria govern the approval of internships:

- There must be a clear and specified relationship to the academic program.
- Placement must be at a professional level of responsibility appropriate for university credit. This does not imply that interns are exempt from routine work.
- Internships are intended as new learning experiences that broaden student knowledge and skills. As such, internships will typically not be approved for students’ existing workplaces. The internship site should enable students to develop and hone new skills.
- Internships involving potential conflict of interests are not appropriate, such as working in a small family business.
- Internships require prior approvals of the advisor, chair, and Dean.
- Sponsoring a student internship is not required of the faculty and is solely based on the discretion of each individual faculty member.
- An internship may not normally substitute for other courses on the student's academic plan.
- Internships may be paid or unpaid.
- Credit will not be approved for any work performed prior to registration for the internship.

Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):

**FINAL EVALUATION – SITE SUPERVISOR** - 30 points
(see **FINAL EVALUATION – SITE SUPERVISOR form**)

**FINAL PORTFOLIO** - 70 points
(see **FINAL PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS**)

TOTAL = 100 points

Grading Scale:
- A = 90% or higher (90+ points)
- B = 80%-89% (80-89 points)
- C = 70-79% (70-79 points)
- D = 60%-69% (60-69 points)
- F = Below 59% (59 points or less)
DUE DATE/GRADING

*Email your portfolio to the instructor TWO WEEKS prior to the end of the semester. If you are planning to graduate the end of the semester in which you are doing an internship your portfolio is due FOUR WEEKS prior to the end of the semester.

*Your grade for the internship will be determined by your supervisor’s evaluations, written assignments, and timely meeting of deadlines. Your grade may be adversely affected if you do not submit Learning Outcomes, Weekly Activity Journals/Reflective Responses, or your Portfolio by the established deadlines.

Expected Student Behavior

Professionalism: While participating in the internship, I expect you to be professional and courteous in your behavior. You are expected to learn the policies and procedures for accepted behavior at your internship location and following those rules. Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, internship sites, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom.

Academic Integrity

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 integrity, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism and the appeal process. Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam; falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to: submitting an assignment as one’s own work when it is at least partly the work of another person; submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper or presentation without giving the author credit. Penalties for academic dishonesty may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, resubmission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university. The procedures for addressing violations of academic integrity are outlined in the Student Academic Dishonesty policy (4.1) and a student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students policy (6.3). Academic dishonesty diminishes the value of your education and violates all the root principles of The SFA way.
Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Violence, Harassment, and Misconduct is Prohibited.

Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) strives to provide an educational and work environment that affirms the rights and dignity of each individual. It is the policy of the university, in accordance with federal and state law, to prohibit unlawful gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner and dating violence, and stalking. Please be aware that all SFA employees (other than those designated as confidential resources in Section 4.5 and Section 6 of the Sex-and Gender-Based Discrimination, Violence, Harassment, and Misconduct Policy 2.13) are required to report any information obtained about potential policy violation including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator within two business days. This means that if any employee who in the course and scope of their employment at SFA witnesses or receives information regarding the occurrence of an incident that the employee reasonably believes constitutes prohibited behavior defined in this policy, that employee must report the suspected or alleged violations within two (2) business days to the Title IX coordinator. As of January 1, 2020, employees of Texas universities are subject to termination and criminal liability for failure to report violations of policy 2.13. Reports must be made even if the impacted student, staff, or faculty member requests the responsible employee not to disclose the information to the Title IX office. If you need assistance making a report but if you would like to speak to a confidential resource who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of resources at www.sfasu.edu/lumberjacks-care-website.

Withheld Grades Policy

*Withheld grades are permitted under certain circumstances as outlined in the university’s Course Grades policy (5.5).* At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, 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, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, 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. Students can submit the initial application request and upload related documentation securely through the Online Student Application portal. 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.

**INTERNSHIP EXPECTATIONS & REQUIREMENTS**
**INTERNSHIP EMPLOYER/SUPERVISORS** The internship site supervisor agrees to train the student under the same conditions and rules that govern other employees and to provide job supervision and varied work experiences. The supervisor agrees to aid in the evaluation of the student. The supervisor is in no way obligated to offer the student employment or give preferential treatment because of this agreement.

**STUDENT** The student agrees to abide by the policies of the university. The student agrees to perform diligently the work experiences assigned by the employer according to the same company policies and regulations as apply to regular employees. The student is responsible for turning in all assignments at the required times and for allowing an evaluation of his/her job performance. Additionally, the student is expected to communicate in a timely manner should any situation arise which may interfere with the student’s ability to complete the internship. Successful completion of the internship experience includes submission of the internship portfolio.

**FINAL PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS**

Please *email* your final portfolio to the instructor. **DO NOT** submit a hard copy printout of your internship portfolio to our office. It may be one large document, several documents attached to one email, or some other compressed file version.

Please include the following items:
- Cover Page
- Copy of Learning Outcomes
- Reflective Paper
  - Minimum of two pages, typed and double spaced, for every credit hour for which you are registered. Be sure to introduce yourself and your experience. The faculty person who grades your paper may not be familiar with your goals or how your experience parallels your program of study. For the rest of your paper, explain in detail:
    - Your job and its relationship to other functions of the organization or the school
    - Each Learning Outcome, how it was accomplished, what was learned, how it relates to your academic studies give three detailed examples of ideas, concepts or themes from your coursework that you observed or utilized in the workplace.
    - Benefits of the experience (personal, developmental, professional)
    - Summarize your experience at the end of your paper
- Copy of Resume – updated to reflect your internship experience
- Copy of all Weekly Activity Journals and Weekly Reflective Question responses
- Copy of Thank You Letter to Supervisor

Additionally, **students must have submitted**:
- Supervisor’s written Final Evaluation of your performance
- Student’s evaluation of internship experience
WEEKLY ACTIVITY JOURNAL

Fill it out electronically, save it electronically for inclusion in your final portfolio, and print a hardcopy to be signed and submitted each week to the Internship Office. You may scan and email, or mail or deliver a hard copy of the signed document.

NAME:_______________________________WEEK ENDING : (DATE)_________________

SITE:________________________________________________________________________

TOTAL HOURS FOR WEEK:___________ TOTAL HOURS TO DATE:_______________

50 hours of work = 1 credit hour  *Please round work hours up to the nearest quarter hour*

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Time In</th>
<th>Time Out</th>
<th>Total Hours Worked</th>
<th>Notes/Activities</th>
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Goals and objectives for the week:

Insights gained (learning experiences, new ideas, concepts):

Any problems encountered (relate challenges or areas of concern and how the situations were handled):

Professional growth (relate learning experiences to your professional development):

________________________________________
Supervisor’s Signature

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS (optional):
WEEKLY REFLECTION

Choose a different question to respond to each week. Submit a hard copy with the question number and the response along with your Weekly Activity Journal. Be sure to save your responses electronically for inclusion in your final portfolio.

1. What is your job description? What are your responsibilities?
2. What is the name, size, and location of the business/organization of your site?
3. Define the purpose of your business/organization.
4. Describe the organizational structure of the business/organization.
5. Describe the effective and ineffective mechanisms of organizational communication at your site. (Support with specific examples and suggestions for modification.)
6. Describe the effective and ineffective mechanisms of personal communication within your unit or immediate work environment that affect your ability to carry out your day to day responsibilities. Include specific examples and suggestions for modification.
7. Describe the technology used in your workplace. What training did you receive in order to be productive in its use? Does the technology serve the individual and the organization? Are you familiar with an alternative form of technology that would be more efficient? Provide suggestions for modifications.
8. Discuss how the experience is or is not meeting your expectations. How will you apply yourself differently for the remainder of the internship? What factors would improve your experience?
9. Discuss how your classroom learning applies to your internship experience.
10. What information could you take from your internship experience and share in the classroom?
11. Describe your short term and long term career goals and design your pathway for achieving these goals. Where are you now in relation to these goals and how do you plan to get where you want to be? How is the internship assisting you on your pathway?
12. Describe an ethical dilemma at your workplace, (actual or possible) that you have observed or of which you have been a part. Discuss why you feel this dilemma exists and what actions were/necessary to resolve the dilemma.
13. Describe a conflict within your organization, past or present, (actual or possible) and discuss how it concluded or how you would like to see it conclude. Provide information about how you would have handled such a situation or if the conflict has not yet concluded, describe how you would bring resolution to the conflict if it was your responsibility.
14. Imagine you are a manager within your organization. Propose some changes that would increase efficiency and working conditions or boost employee morale.
15. What have you learned about yourself, your employer and your job?
16. What have you learned about the value of your education in preparing you for, or not preparing you for your career? Explain.
17. What have you learned about this occupation or profession?
18. What would you have done differently for this internship experience?
FINAL EVALUATION – SITE SUPERVISOR *(To be filled out by supervisor)*

Supervisor’s ratings are helpful to us in evaluating the student’s performance, may serve as a basis for counseling and become a part of the student’s internship file. We would appreciate your frank opinions on the form below. Please evaluate the student objectively, comparing him/her with other students of comparable academic level and training; with other employees serving in similarly classified positions; and with individual standards of performance. Should additional space be necessary for your comments, please feel free to attach a separate sheet to the form.

Student _________________________________________ Date of Evaluation ___________________

Internship Site:________________________________________________________________________________

Supervisor Signature:_________________________________________________

Please rate the student on the following:

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<th>Advanced</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Competent</th>
<th>Needs Improvement</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
<th>N/A</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attitude toward superiors</td>
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OVERALL RATING
What are the student’s major professional assets and strengths?

What are the student’s major professional developmental needs?

Did the student have adequate organizational/management skills?

Based on the above evaluation,

________ I would recommend this individual.

________ I would recommend this individual with reservations.

________ I would not recommend this individual.

Supervisor’s signature _______________________________ Date_______________
FINAL EVALUATION –STUDENT

**Your comments will not affect your final grade or the possibility of future employment with your employer. This document is for in-office use only.**

STUDENT NAME:

INTERNESHIP SITE/SUPERVISORS NAME:

EXPERIENCE WAS ☐ PAID ☐ UNPAID
TERM ENROLLED:
# OF CREDITS:

DIRECTIONS: Objectively evaluate your internship experience using the rating scale below:
E –Excellent A –Above Average S –Satisfactory N –Needs Improvement U –Unsatisfactory N/A –Not Applicable

RATING COMMENTS, EXAMPLES

WORK EXPERIENCE
Relationship of work to career goals _____________________________________________
Training received ___________________________________________________________
Supervision received _________________________________________________________
Level of responsibility assigned _______________________________________________
Overall rating of work experience _____________________________________________

LEARNING EXPERIENCE
Learned skills or techniques ___________________________________________________
Gained new knowledge _______________________________________________________
Relationship of academics ___________________________________________________
Overall rating of learning _____________________________________________________

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
Gained greater self-confidence _______________________________________________
Improved understanding of self ______________________________________________
Contributed to professional growth ___________________________________________

OVERALL EXPERIENCE RATING _______________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

How did this experience affect your educational or professional plans? (circle one)
☐ Confirmed Plans ☐ Changed Plans

What do you consider the best aspects of this experience?

What would you consider the weaker aspects of this experience?