GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

POLITICAL SCIENCE 197 - INTERNSHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

POSC 197 Internship in Political 2 10 hours work experience

Science per week

120 total volunteer hours

150 total paid hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None.

Recommended Preparation

None.

3. Catalog Description

Community Service Learning Experience (CSLE) is a community outreach program which promotes the national agenda of volunteer engagement. The purpose is to provide students an opportunity to explore options and careers in a selected area of study. This course places students with political office holders at the federal, state, or local level; government and social agencies; non-profit and lobbying groups; law firms, and similar locations.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Relate and apply concepts in the field of political science to real world practice in the community. This will include actual applications of demand and supply, cost concepts, and production theory.

b. Develop job contacts and work experience that will aid the student in obtaining employment of his/her choice in the future.

c. Assess and evaluate the purpose, role and operation of the institution or agency of his/her choice.

d. Manage the tasks and exhibit the personal traits peculiar to the work situation and contribute to the operation of the institution or agency of placement.

e. Demonstrate the maturity and responsibility to complete the internship in the manner prescribed in the syllabus.

5. Instructional Facilities

Most of the student’s work for this course will be conducted at the internship site. However, the course will also require occasional meetings with the instructor and fellow students on campus. The course will also require work in the computer laboratory at the campus where the students will participate in an internet chat room, with guidance from the instructor, where they will analyze and share their experiences.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None.

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7. Course Content

The course will consist primarily of the student’s contribution to the work of the institution or agency at which he or she is placed. Through individual meetings, the instructor and the student will work together to analyze and upgrade the student’s learning experience by linking the work onsite with key concepts of political science that will be introduced in selected readings.

8. Method of Instruction

a. The main instruction will occur while the student is onsite at the internship agency or institution.

b. Three meetings will be held in the office of the instructor at the beginning, midpoint, and end of the internship for the purpose of information and evaluation.

c. Written reflection will be carried out by the student either online in the form of an electronic chat room (guided by the instructor), or through the keeping of a journal.

d. The student will complete assigned readings appropriate for a two unit course and prepare written or oral reports for the instructor and for other students with similar internship placements.

e. When remedial or enrichment activities are indicated, these will be prescribed and carried out by the student.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. A written evaluation of the student by the student’s onsite supervisor.

b. Personal interviews of the student by the instructor.

c. Written evaluation of the student by the instructor.

d. Written self-evaluation by the student of the internship experience.

e. End-of-the semester meeting of all participants to evaluate the program.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Work at the internship site and the direction of the employer/agency.

b. Work the required hours of the unit value of the internship.

c. Keep written records of the work done at the internship site.

d. Be responsible for completing assigned readings.

11. Texts

a. Required Text(s):

(1) Barber, Benjamin and Richard Battistoni, editors. *Education for Democracy.* Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt, 1993.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

Meet the needs of the intern employer.

Date approved by the Governing Board: 6/98