

## **GEOG 3398: Geography Internship**

Professor: Dr. Garrett Smith  
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### **Catalog Description**

GEOG 3398 - Internship

#### **1-9 Credit Hours**

***Prerequisite: GEOG 4405 for GIS internships, or at least 15 hours of upper division geography courses for non-GIS internships.***

A structured off-campus experience in a supervised setting that is related to the student's major and career interests. Practical experience is combined with scholarly research under the guidance of geography faculty and the internship supervisor. Those seeking experience in a GIS environment will work under the guidance of the GIS Program Director. Sites must be in advance of the semester of the internship and must be approved by the student's advisor or internship coordinator.

**Notes:** This course is for GEOG majors. GIS majors should register for GIS 3398 and GIS certificate students should register for GIS 4415. A departmental internship orientation session is scheduled once a semester.

### **Goals and Philosophy**

An internship is a partnership between the student, the Geography Department, and the host-organization in which motivated students gain valuable knowledge that cannot be acquired in the classroom. The internship provides a structured and extended off-campus experience in a supervised geography-related setting. It is an opportunity for the student to apply the principles learned in the academic setting to a work situation, to explore a career area before graduation, to obtain work experience and contacts for future job seeking and/or graduate school application, and to develop knowledge and work skills through the combination of practical experience and scholarly research in the topical area of the internship. Usually students will register for internship during the senior year because the internship is intended to be a capstone experience and also because if a job opening occurs at the organization, the intern is near graduation and available for employment.

### **Grading**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Site performance   | 40%         |
| Final paper        | 40%         |
| Weekly journaling  | 10%         |
| Final Presentation | 10%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>100%</b> |

## **Grading System**

A = (90% +)  
B = (80% - 89%)  
C = (70% - 79%)  
D = (60% - 69%)  
F = (59% or less)

- The normal load for an internship is 3 credit hours = 150 hours at the work site.
- Immediately contact the Internship Coordinator if there is a problem.
- An internship site may be substituted within the first four weeks of the semester but the student must still complete 150 hours of work at the new site to receive credit.

## **The Final Paper**

The student will write a paper that assesses their internship experience in the context of their geographic education. The paper shall include, at a minimum, the following:

1. An overview of the agency and its purpose.
2. The student's roles and responsibilities over the course of the semester.
3. What skills did you use?
4. What skills did you learn?
5. Relate some of the theories you learned in your geography classes to your experience. This is the main objective of the final paper. Develop this section as fully as possible to receive maximum credit on your paper.
6. What are the broader geographic applications of your internship activities?
7. Final Paper Format:
  - a. 10 pages of text minimum (not counting tables, maps, references, etc.)
  - b. 5 peer-reviewed sources minimum
  - c. 1 map minimum
  - d. APA or Chicago Style citation system
  - e. Standard fonts and margins

## **D2L**

Each student has a D2L account for this class. Course communication should take place using the D2L email system. You will find helpful documents on your D2L course page.

## **Plagiarism and Cheating (from the KSU Student Code of Conduct)**

No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).

**Cheating will not be tolerated in GEOG 3398 and may result in an “F” for the given assignment, and/or and “F” for the course, and/or a hearing which may result in an “F” for the course and a minimum one-semester suspension.**

The Professor has the right to alter this syllabus at his discretion.