

Course Syllabus
Spring 2014
Communication Studies Internship

B. Hannah Rockwell, Ph.D.
Communication Studies Internship Coordinator
School of Communication
Loyola University Chicago

Office: SOC 207
Phone: 312-915-6847
hrockwe@luc.edu

Course Objectives:

- 1) To enhance your communication skills in a professional workplace
- 2) To develop professional competencies in a specialized area consistent with your internship
- 3) To evaluate your interest in pursuing post-baccalaureate work related to internship competencies.

Requirements:

Since the Communication Studies internship meets the university core engaged learning requirement, you will receive separate inquiries from the Center for Experiential Learning. Please be sure to report your activities so that the university can meet its federally mandated reporting requirements. You may register your internship by going to this link: https://locus.luc.edu/pa91prd/locus_help/Entering_Experiential_Learning_Information_in_LOCUS.pdf

We will meet as a group three times during the semester; please mark your calendars.

Wed. Feb. 5th 4:15 in SOC 222

Wed. Mar. 12th 4:15 in SOC 222

Wed. Apr. 16th 4:15 in SOC 222

Wed. Apr. 30th 4:15 (we will NOT meet; however, final papers and supervisor evaluations from your SOC Internship Handbook are due) These materials may be submitted electronically to hrockwe@luc.edu

Five Progress Reports

All reports should be typed, double-spaced and delivered in hard copy at our meetings in person. Reports not delivered this way will not be accepted or receive a grade. This work is graded, so please understand that if you turn something in, it will also be evaluated for thoughtfulness, reflective insight and general quality (university level writing).

Report 1: Complete by third week of internship : Due at Meeting 1

What were your specific activities during your first three weeks of the internship? How does this activity help you reach your overall learning goals for the internship? How would you assess your learning and performance during the first three weeks?

Report 2: Complete by sixth week of internship: Due at Meeting 1

What were your specific activities during your second three weeks of the internship? How did your duties change? What have you learned about your own communication skills in a professional environment? What have you found challenging about the work, human relationships, others' communication with you, etc.?

Report 3: Complete by eighth week of internship: Due at Meeting 2

What were your specific activities and responsibilities during this three week period? What have you not done in your internship that you want to do? What have you learned the most about so far?

Report 4: Complete by tenth week of internship: Due at Meeting 2

What were your specific activities and responsibilities during the last two weeks? Assess your current progress on each of your learning goals. What have you done to date to move your learning objectives forward?

Report 5: Complete by 12th week of internship: Due at Meeting 3

What were your specific activities and responsibilities during this two week period? What is your perspective about pursuing a professional life in the area of your internship? What specific skills have you developed that will help you in this (or another) area of expertise?

Criteria for Academic Performance:

Completing Engaged Learning File on Locus:	Required for Course Credit
Five Progress Reports:	100 pts. (20 points each)
Final Paper Evaluating Experience:	100 pts.
Attendance and Participation at Group Meetings:	150 pts. (50 points each)
Quality of Supervisor Evaluation:	150 pts.

Grading Scale:

475-500	A
450-474	A-
435-449	B+
425-434	B
400-424	B-
385-399	C+
375-384	C
350-374	C-
335-349	D+
325-334	D
Below 325	F

One last (but significant) note: You are receiving academic credit for doing this internship; therefore, there are two important components to this process: a) what you are doing and learning as an intern, and b) how you process and reflect on those experiences, considering the competencies you have learned in Loyola's School of Communication. While you may be spending the largest number of hours doing the practical work of the internship, to neglect the academic requirements would be an error in judgment.

Final Paper Assignment

Due by Wed. April 30th 4:15 p.m.

Please submit to me electronically to hrockwe@luc.edu No late papers will be accepted.

Final document should be typed, double spaced and no more than five pages in a font size no smaller than 10.

Part I: Learning Question

Revisit your learning objectives from the forms you completed in order to get the internship. Reflect on how well you met those objectives, or in some cases, whether the objectives could have been more specific to enhance your internship experience. This essay should integrate your coursework, internship experience and your own goals for professional development. It is difficult to say how well you met your goals if your objectives are not so clear in the beginning. Put another way, what kind of knowledge and/or competencies did you hope to gain by being in that environment, exposed to specific kinds of communication practices?

What did you do (be specific) to meet your goals, and how were they challenged during the course of your internship work? Feel free to use concrete examples to illustrate the point you are making, but do not assume the example is self-evident in its lesson; explain what you learned and how.

Part II: Individual Assessment

Preparation: How did your courses and class work prepare you for the internship? Describe specific topics, theories and ideas that were useful.

Knowledge and Skills: What were the most important things that you learned during this internship? Relate your learning to specific activities and experiences in your internship.

Integration: How does the internship fit into your future career aspirations? Write about the value of the internship experience in relation to your professional development. How will you apply the things you have learned?

Evaluation: How would you evaluate your overall performance in the internship? Support your answer with specific examples related to the intern evaluation form.