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Psychology and Neuroscience Internships

What are the benefits of completing an internship?

Internships provide a valuable opportunity for exploration, clarification, and application of psychological concepts/theories. Gaining field-based experiences can help you explore your own strengths and interests as well as the potential to gain insights about future vocational or academic directions. Internships allow you to apply what you have learned in the classroom to “real-life” situations. Additionally, internship experiences will enhance your qualifications for employment and/ or graduate school.

Students who are pursuing a B.A. in Psychology are required to complete a 400-level depth experience. Students can choose to meet this requirement by taking three credits of a 400-level seminar course, 400-level Independent Study, or 400-level Internship.

What types of internships are available?

Internships may be completed as either credited or non-credited experiences.

Non-credited options allow the student to complete and document a 150-hour experience in collaboration with a site supervisor. Students pursuing this option will complete the Non-credited internship contract described below. A non-credited internship will show up on your transcript, but you will not receive credit or a grade for the internship.

Another option for students who do not want to earn course credit for their internship is to simply find and complete a volunteer/internship experience on their own; these types of experiences can fall outside the NCC internship structure but still provide excellent opportunities to develop experience and explore interests. If you choose this option, you do not

need to complete an internship contract. The internship will not show up on your transcript, but it can be included on your resume.

Credited internships are completed under the supervision of a faculty member from the Psychology department for variable credit hours. Credited internships include field hours and academic requirements. Each academic credit hour requires equals 50 hours of field experience, as well as 10 hours of academic coursework.

Students who choose to earn course credit for an internship can register for one of three internship courses, each with its own purpose and pre-requisites as described below:

| | PSY/NSC 297 | PSY/NSC 397 | PSY/NSC 497 |
|--------------------|---|--|--|
| Learning objective | Exploration | Exploration | Depth experience |
| Credits | 0-9 | 0-9 | 0-9 (minimum of 3.0 hours to satisfy the B.A. depth requirement) |
| Pre-requisites | Statistics (PSY 250) and one additional 200-level Psychology or Neuroscience course | Research Design (PSY 255) and one additional 200-level Psychology or Neuroscience course | Research Design (PSY 255) and one additional 300-level Psychology or Neuroscience course |

How do I find an internship?

1. Talk with your academic advisor about the timing of the internship and what type of internship might be the best fit for your academic goals.
2. Set up a meeting with Career Development to discuss the internship process and ways to search for an internship. Keep in mind that finding the right internship is similar to finding the right job – you will search a variety of options, apply for it, and undergo an interview process. The Career Development Center will guide you in *how* to find the right internship; however, it is not their job to find an internship for you! It will be your responsibility to research various sites and find the best fit. Therefore, it is recommended that you start the process of locating an internship the term before you plan to complete the internship (so for fall internships, your search should take place during the summer).

A Sample of Recent Internships

- Morton Arboretum (research intern)
- DuPage Children’s Museum (program evaluation)
- Community Access Naperville (empowering young adults with developmental disabilities)
- Treehouse Pediatric Therapy (occupational therapy intern)
- Somanouk High School (school counseling intern)
- Livingston County Special Services (school social work intern)
- Robert Crown Center for Health Education (health educator intern)
- 360 Youth Services (youth case worker)
- Guardian Angel Community Services (adoption support)
- Jonathan Wesley, Inc. (human resources recruitment)
- World Relief (student services: working with refugee children & youth)
- National Association of Anorexia Nervosa & Related Disorders (social media outreach)
- Shedd Aquarium (audience research)
- Thornwood High School (after school program peer counselor)
- NeuroHealth Associates (intake intern)

For more information, see the Credited Internship Learning Contract form [[link](#)]

Career Development

Website:

<http://cardinalnet.northcentralcollege.edu/student-life/career-development>

Phone: (630) 637-5145

Location: Oesterle Library, first floor