

California State University | Stanislaus

BIOL 4940, INTERNSHIP IN BIOLOGY SPRING 2018

Instructor:	Mark A. Grobner	Office Hours:	T 2-3, W 1-2, F 9-10
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COURSE INFORMATION

University Course Catalog Description

Supervised work in an agency or business related to the biological sciences. Six to twelve hours per week. A weekly one-hour seminar will be held to discuss career-related topics and the work experience aspect of the course. Course may be repeated, but a maximum of 1 unit may be applied toward a biology degree.

Prerequisites: Junior- or senior-level biology major and consent of instructor.

Offered: (Fall, Spring)

Course Description

Service-Learning is a teaching and learning method that integrates community involvement and service with academic coursework as it focuses on critical, reflective thinking. This course will have students present science related activities to K-12 classes to promote science literacy and critical thinking. Students gain a deeper and more practical understanding of the content from previous courses, as well as, a broader appreciation of science in society.

Course Learning Outcomes -

Objectives for Service-Learning:

1. To increase understanding of STEM disciplines in the surrounding community;
2. To stimulate and develop critical thinking skills in participants;
3. To gain a comprehensive view of the needs of the community being served (beyond just the service being provided);
4. To increase understanding of the operation of community agencies (their existence, goals, objectives, limitations, challenges, obstacles and successes);
5. To gain exposure to economic, racial and/or ethnic communities which may differ from the students own.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Course Grading

Your grades will be assigned as follows:

Service Hours:

- Students perform a minimum of 3 hours (per academic unit) of community-based service work on a regular weekly basis (45 total hours per unit).
- Students must complete their service hours before the last day of the academic term they are enrolled.
- IN SUM: You should do your service work in 2- to 3-hour sessions (per academic unit) once per week.

Assessment of learning objectives:

1. Prior to commencing the internship experience, each student shall submit expected objectives of the work experience and indicate how it is expected to enhance his/her program.
2. Students will keep a reflective journal summarizing responsibilities and how the experience relates to the student's program.
3. Mid-way through the term in which the credit is to be granted, each student shall submit a draft of the student's professional resume, including the internship experience. Each student shall also draft a real or fictional letter of application that would accompany the resume. Prior to the end of the term in which the student is enrolled, he/she shall submit final drafts of their resume/letter of application (if initial drafts require revision).
4. Each student shall write a final report summarizing the experience (pros and cons) and evaluating whether or not the experience met the expectations that were submitted at the beginning of the experience. The student will also be expected to evaluate how the experience has contributed to his/her program and/or career aspirations.
5. The STEM Outreach Coordinator, the student's direct supervisor, will be expected to confirm that the student has completed the minimum hours of work expected and complete a one-page evaluation of the student as an "employee". In addition, that supervisor will assign a numerical overall evaluation that will be used in determining the student's grade for the course, either Credit or No Credit.

Grades of "Incomplete"

From The University Catalog –

An Incomplete signifies (1) that a portion of required coursework has not been completed and evaluated in the prescribed time period due to unforeseen but fully justified reasons beyond the student's control, and (2) that there is still a possibility of earning credit. It is the responsibility of the student to bring pertinent information to the attention of the instructor and to determine from the instructor the remaining course requirements which must be satisfied to remove the Incomplete. The conditions for removal of the Incomplete shall be put in writing by the instructor and given to the student, with a copy placed on file with the department chair. A final grade will be assigned when the work agreed upon has been completed and evaluated.

Any Incomplete must be made up within the time limit set by the instructor; in any case, no more than one calendar year following the end of the term in which the Incomplete was assigned. An Incomplete should never be used to (1) give a failing student an opportunity to redo unsatisfactory work or complete additional work; or (2) give a student more time to complete his/her work when the reasons for the delay have been within his/her control. This limitation prevails whether or not the student maintains continuous enrollment. Failure to complete the assigned work will result in an incomplete reverting to a grade of NC for grading options 1 and 2, and to a grade of IC for grading option 3. (See the Academic Standards section of this catalog and the Schedule of Classes Informational Guide for grading options.)

In cases of prolonged illness or any emergency which necessitates an extension of time to complete the course, the student may petition through the academic department where the course was offered. Students may not be

permitted to graduate until all Incompletes are removed or evaluated as “IC” grades. Students are not to reregister in courses in which they have an Incomplete.

http://catalog.csustan.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=541&returnto=search#indi_stud_cour

COURSE POLICIES: TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA

Email

Questions regarding course materials should be directed to me at mgrobner@csustan.edu. Please be sure to put **BIOL 4940** in the subject line as I get a lot of emails every day and I want to be sure to respond to yours quickly. For issues with BlackBoard, please contact the helpdesk, linked from the BlackBoard login page.

University Academic Conduct Policy

There will be zero-tolerance for plagiarism/cheating. Plagiarism and/or cheating will result in a 0.0 for the class. For further information, please see the CSU Stanislaus catalog for Student Code of Conduct

http://catalog.csustan.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=115#stud_cond