

**PSYC 463, Academic Internships in Psychology:** This is a three-credit course which fulfills the psychology major capstone experience requirement. It provides an opportunity for students to integrate their psychology coursework into a culminating practical experience in a human service, educational or business setting. It consists of a weekly seminar meeting of one hour and student participation in supervised, professional work activities related to the discipline of psychology. All field work will take place at a pre-assigned internship site for 8-12 hours per week for 15 weeks.\* The primary objectives of this course are for junior and senior psychology students to gain the following:

- Acquire enhanced understanding of psychological principles and their practical application.
- Apply psychological knowledge and methods to specific personal, organizational, or social needs and problems.
- Improve communication skills including the ability to present ideas about the self and others in a clear and cogent manner.
- Develop professional behaviors and skills relevant to postgraduate employment.
- Gain realistic knowledge of career opportunities and improved clarity regarding career interests and goals.
- Gain enhanced awareness and understanding of professional and personal attributes.
- Develop effective ways to respond to constructive feedback.
- Develop understanding of ways to capitalize on strengths as an emerging professional.
- Learn and practice the ethical principles of the discipline of psychology.

### **Application Information:**

Students are required to apply for a space in the class during the semester *prior* to their internship. Students accepted for the class will be notified before the registration period and can expect to collaborate with the instructor to find an appropriate internship site. (Those for whom a space is not available will be notified as well.) Assignments are not guaranteed and students must interview with sites for their position.

The selection of interns is competitive and will be based on student qualifications and match with established sites. As part of the review of applications, Psychology Department faculty will be asked to provide confidential input about applicant attributes including dependability, initiative and ability to work with others. Students may want to contact faculty with whom they have worked to discuss the possibility that they would provide supportive comments on their behalf, when asked to provide input.