

## COMMUNITY FIELD PLACEMENT FIELD EXPERIENCES CD 99/199

### **What is a Field Experience in Community Field Placement?**

A community field placement experience, also known as an internship, is designed to allow students to gain experience within a community agency while integrating the experience with academic learning. It is recommended for Child Development majors, but students from other departments may enroll. Students may use this opportunity to apply their theoretical knowledge of child development in a work setting in areas such as education, early intervention, child life, social policy, advocacy or mental health. Many students use this opportunity to define their major areas of interest for future work or for identification of thesis research topics. Master's level students frequently use community field placement as a stepping stone to their 232 internship.

### **What are the Requirements for a Field Placement?**

Each student is required to complete a supervised placement in an approved setting for 10 hours per week. These 10 hours do not include transportation and supervision time. Students are expected to maintain a log of their hours. The field placement seminar meets once per week for an hour and fifteen minutes. Participation in the seminar is mandatory in order to receive credit for the experience. Requirements include a series of reflection papers, preparation of a reading list that is relevant to the internship, a twenty minute presentation of the work to peers, and a final portfolio that exhibits some of the work at the end of the semester. There are two three-way meetings between student, site supervisor, and course instructor each semester. The site supervisor prepares a mid-term and final evaluation for each student. Communication between site supervisor, student, and course instructor is ongoing as needed via email, telephone, individual meetings, and journals.

### **How are Field Placements Arranged?**

Students can go to the internship site (CD homepage and click on internships) to see some of the sites that are available. (Often academic advisers and the Field Placement Coordinator will have other suggestions.) **Students must attend a mandatory meeting** - notice of this meeting is sent to all students in the previous semester. Students should download the CD 99/199 Request for Field Placement form, complete it and bring the form to the mandatory meeting. Once the form is received, the Field Placement Coordinator will make contact with your places of interest and send you contact information for one of your choices. You will make contact with the agency to set up an interview. If all seems satisfactory, you then notify the Field Placement Coordinator, and the placement will be secured.

### **Are There Paid Field Experience Positions?**

Usually the community field placements are unpaid. Some master's level and student teaching internships are paid.

### **For further information contact:**

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