

## **Internships in Political Science: Questions and Answers**

### **1) When can I do an undergraduate internship for credit?**

The Political Science Department offers internship courses each semester. You can participate in an internship, for credit, after you have completed one semester at Rutgers—Newark. Ideally, you would be a junior or senior and have completed coursework that would prepare you for getting the most out of this experience.

### **2) How do I find an internship?**

Visit the Career Development Center Web site, RaiderNet, or identify organizations on your own, through other students, family members, friends or other contacts. The internship director will also send emails to majors and minors as opportunities arise.

### **3) What will I gain from doing an internship?**

An internship is an opportunity to learn about the professional world. Students may discover they love the area they have chosen, or that the work environment does not fit their career interests or aspirations. Either way, an internship provides a great way to learn “first-hand” about a specific professional field and to make professional contacts. An internship course may also fulfill a subfield requirement toward your major.

### **4) Should I expect compensation for my internship?**

No. Internships provide valuable work and research experience and on occasion, a stipend.

### **5) How much time will students need to invest in an internship?**

To earn internship credits, you must work a minimum of 10-12 hours per week for at least 12 weeks during the semester (between 120 and 144 hours total).

### **6) Are there any other requirements to receive internship credit?**

Yes. You will need to meet with the Internship Director once a month and submit a final paper.

### **7) Do I need a resume?**

Yes. You must have an updated and professional-quality cover letter and resume as a prerequisite to apply for an internship. The Career Development Center, Hill Hall, Room 112 will help you to create one.

### **8) What happens if I encounter a problem during my internship?**

An internship is a learning experience and a job. You should arrive on time, dress appropriately and actively participate (be a good team member). If you encounter a problem, speak with your supervisor first, and then the Internship Director, if necessary.

### **9) Additional advice?**

Be realistic about your schedule, the goal is to have a positive internship experience **and** a successful semester. This is your chance to explore various opportunities.

For more information, contact the Political Science Internship Director:

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