

Anthropology 495

Internship in Applied Anthropology

Syllabus

Anthropology 495 involves supervised field placement of students in campus or community organizations, museums, schools, cultural resource management firms, social service and development agencies, zoological parks, forensic laboratories, business firms, and other institutions where concepts and principles of anthropology can be put to practice.

ANTH 495 is a Credit/No Credit course. It may be taken for 1-3 credit units, and repeated up to 3 credit units. ANTH 495 fulfills a methods requirement for the Anthropology major.

Prerequisites

Completion of or concurrent enrollment in the four core courses for the major: ANTH 301, ANTH 302, ANTH 303, and ANTH 304.

Learning Outcomes

- Experience the application of anthropology in a work environment outside of the classroom
- Learn methods of the application of anthropology in a work setting
- Analyze the work situation as an instance of applied anthropology
- Reflect on the experience of the internship in the context of your learning of anthropology at SDSU

Course Requirements

Obtaining an internship

Students wishing to take ANTH 495 need to find an appropriate internship and an Anthropology Department faculty member who is willing to give them academic supervision. The Anthropology Department curates some specific internship opportunities, and maintains a list of some organizations that are potentially interested in offering internships, but does not arrange internships directly for students. It is the responsibility of the student to contact an organization, arrange the internship, and identify their on-site supervisor. The student also contacts a member of the Anthropology Department faculty who is interested in serving as departmental supervisor of the internship. Unless specified in the internship description, that faculty member does not supervise the on-site activities of the student. Faculty members are not required to accept student proposals for internships.

The student prepares the ANTH 495 form, which includes the name of the organization, a description of the internship activities and the analytical report, the number of hours worked per week, and the number of credit units. The form is signed by the on-site supervisor from the organization, the Departmental faculty supervisor, and the undergraduate adviser before the student can receive a schedule number to register for the course. The student also signs an SDSU Release of Liability form for any off-campus internships.

Completing work at the organization

The student completes the work of the internship under the supervision of the on-site supervisor. The student should report to their faculty supervisor on their activities from time to time during the semester. Students should report any problems with their internship to their faculty supervisor immediately.

The University calculates that a student should work three hours a week per credit unit. Since the course can be taken for 1-3 units, students are expected to work between three and nine hours a week throughout the semester, depending on the number of units they earn.

Analytical Report (Optional)

The student will prepare a report of their internship activities for their faculty supervisor. The format and contents of the report will be decided by the student and the supervising faculty member. The report will generally contain the following elements:

- description of the activities undertaken
- discussion of the methods used in the internship
- analysis of how what was learned during the internship relates to the application of anthropology
- evaluation of the internship as an educational experience in anthropology.

The faculty supervisor may decide on a different format that better suits the content of the internship. Please arrange these conditions with your faculty supervisor *at the start* of your internship semester.

Grading

The student will receive credit for the course by completing the internship activities at the selected organization and completion of an analytical report to the satisfaction of the faculty supervisor.