

Semester in the City Student Worksheet (Updated June 21, 2023)

Semester in the City is a non-profit program that partners with the University of Massachusetts Amherst and is dedicated to providing college undergraduate students with fully-credited “social innovation fellowships”/internships and related seminars and classes. It is a program for sophomores, juniors and seniors in all majors interested in social justice.

The program was recently awarded a \$2.7 million grant to become an AmeriCorps partner organization. Support from AmeriCorps will allow students who enroll in [Semester in the City](#) to continue earning a full semester of academic credit while receiving enhanced financial benefits, including a scholarship of nearly \$2,000 that can be used for future UG semesters, graduate school, or to pay off student loans. International students who participate in SITC will also obtain a financial award through another SITC funding source.

Note: Any funding or scholarship that you receive towards this program, must be reported to UMass Financial Aid.

Credits and Grades

- **CREDITS:** Credits earned during program will be recorded on your UMass transcript. All credits will be counted as residence credits toward UMass graduation.
- **GRADES:** Letter grades will appear for the two courses taken and will affect your GPA; the practicum /internship portion of the program is P/F, thus not affecting your GPA.
- **REQUIREMENTS:** Students accepted in the program need to contact Michael Hanna in Education, mhanna@umass.edu to enroll you in these courses. **These classes fulfill requirements for the Community Education and Social Major.** Non-Education major students can use these courses towards completing the Education Minor, if interested.
 - EDUC 276 – Fighting Harmful Erroneous Beliefs (Semester in the City Becoming a Problem Solver) 4cr
 - EDUC 393B – Leadership in Diverse Communities (Semester in the City Social Innovators Toolbox) 3cr
 - EDUC 398C - Practicum/Internship 9cr*

If a student is not an Education major, and their academic department prefers them to sign up for departmental practicum credits instead of EDUC 398C, the student must discuss with a faculty advisor in their department, what the course number should be. The department will register the student for practicum credits.

Example: BDIC students will still need to sign up for EDUC 276 and EDUC 398B with Mike Hanna. They can sign up for the practicum/internship portion with BDIC course 398A for 9 credits or if a senior, BDIC 498A, instead of EDUC 398C. BDIC students will need to find a faculty sponsor to get signed up for those internship credits, so they should contact the BDIC Director or any other faculty member.

Student Billing and Finances

- Students pay their Tuition and Fees directly to UMass. Out of State and Regional students continue to pay at those rates.
- Students are enrolled at UMass for 16 credits.
- Those credits will allow your financial aid, except for work study, to be processed at UMass.
- If the student is living in SITC housing – single or double – or not
 - UMass Bursar’s Office will adjust the housing cost to the student bill

- o The Bursar's Office then pays Semester in the City after student has paid the UMass bill.

FAQ:

- Can I get UMass housing when I return from my program?
 - o Yes, just provide the UMass Residential Life Student Services office with documentation that you are participating in SITC (the SITC acceptance letter is the best form of documentation)
- How do my credits appear on my UMass transcript?
 - o 16 total credits
 - o 7 credits for the two classes, EDUC 276 (4cr) and EDUC 393B (3cr)
 - o 9 credits for EDUC 398C - Practicum/Internship **OR a course number designated by your department**

Before Committing to Participation

- Make sure you are registered for the two classes, plus the course for internship credits, (either EDUC 398C or Departmental course). If you are not an Education major, this means clarifying the preferred departmental course number for internships credits and having them enroll you.
- Cancel your on campus housing and meal plan for the semester you will be away.
- Confirm with the Career Development and Professional Connections Hub that you will be participating, **as we will confirm your cancelled housing, which will allow you to resume on-campus housing access, when you return without a problem.** For any questions you might have before or during the experience, contact us at: **careerservices@umass.edu**
- Fill out and sign the Field Experience Acknowledgement form and return it to: careerservices@umass.edu. When filling out the form, click the fillable box in the third paragraph and fill in any known risks, specific to your placement. If you aren't aware of any, then type in the follow phrase: "Other industry-specific hazards" in that box.