Chicana and Chicano Studies 498: Internship in the US-Mexico Border  
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This course offers SDSU undergraduates the opportunity to receive academic credit while learning and working in off-campus placements. These placements allow students to gain on-site experience in public or private institutions, agencies, or organizations engaged in US-Mexico binational relations or border-related issues. The internship meets requirements for the United States-Mexico Border Studies certificate program.

Learning Objectives
1) Provide students with applied field experience in US-Mexico border issues in Chicana/o Studies  
2) Engage students in community service-learning experiences and provide them with professional contacts in the field  
3) Enhance students’ awareness of community needs and concerns regarding immigrant and border issues  
4) Enhance students’ understanding of the structure and function of the workplace  
5) Introduce students to the career options in fields having to do with US-Mexico binational relations or border-related issues

Course Description
Students who enroll in CCS 498 are expected to work 10 hours per week for 15 weeks (150 hours), keep a journal of their activities and reflection, and write a five-page, double-spaced paper under faculty supervision. This course does not meet regularly because the emphasis of the course is for students to spend time working in the field as interns. The instructor will meet with interns in an independent studies format by scheduling individual meetings with each student during which students will confirm that they have taken CCS 355. This requirement may be waived with the consent of the Internship Coordinator. The instructor will provide eligible students with an Add Code for the course and ask students to view a list of approved internship positions available on the CCS Website Internships Link. Students should be aware that most undergraduate internships are unpaid.

Required Reading

Course Requirements and Grading:
The final course grade (CR N/CR only) will be based on four required components: 1) at least 150 hours of internship service 2) weekly journal 3)
paper and 4) evaluation of student intern by the internship employer. All four need to be completed by the fifteenth week of the semester.

**Weekly Journal**
Students should keep a journal of the internship experience writing *one entry per week* that briefly describes their internship work for that week (1-2 paragraphs long) addressing assigned work, challenges and problem-solving strategies, relation between relevant academic coursework/literature and internship work, and reflection by the student on all the aforementioned.

**Paper**
Using the book, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* as a guide, discuss and explain how each of the 4 chapters in the book is pertinent to your internship work and/or how the book’s lessons can be applied to your interest or experience with matters having to do with immigrants/immigration, the U.S.-Mexico border, and/or transnationality. The paper should be 4-5 pages in length, double spaced, and printed in 12-point Ariel font.

**Supervisor’s Letter or Evaluation of Student’s Work**
After completing 150 hours of internship work, the student should meet with his/her supervisor to discuss the internship performance. The supervisor should complete and sign the CCS Intern Evaluation Sheet. Return this form to the instructor by the fifteenth week of the semester, along with the journal and paper assignments.

**Securing and Completing an Internship**
- Because time is limited, students must begin contacting organizations as quickly as possible after receiving the approved internship list.
- Students then need to independently contact organizations/offices that they are interested in working for.
- Students should try to learn as much as possible about internship positions during their internship interviews. After accepting an internship position, try not to resign and start another internship unless it can’t be helped. Keep in mind that placements are competitive and are not guaranteed.
- After the student interviews with a particular employer and secures a placement, he/she and the employer must complete the Signed Contract Form, latter in the semester the student will complete the Student Evaluation of Internship Site Form. The student must return these forms to the instructor as soon as possible.
- Interns should work at least 150 hours in order to complete the internship and earn 3 units of course credit.
- After the student completes 150 hours of internship work, his/her internship supervisor must complete the CCS Intern Evaluation Sheet.
• The student must submit this sheet to the instructor along with his/her paper and journal assignments by the fifteenth week of the semester in order to receive a final grade in the course.
• Students who do not complete the required hours and assignments by Finals Week will receive a final grade of NC for the course.

Student Conduct:

Students working as interns through the CCS 498 course are representing San Diego State University. As such, professional standards and behavior are required throughout the internship process. Be punctual and mindful in work and dress habits. Show respect toward your supervisor and be courteous to others. Take the initiative in completing your internship work assignments and in seeking new assignments.