

Political Science 99
INTERNSHIP: FIELDWORK IN POLITICS
Tufts University
Version 2 (September 10, 2014)
Fall or Spring Semester, 2014-15

Professor Shinju Fujihira
Email: shin.fujihira@tufts.edu
Twitter: @sfujihira

Office: Packard 003
Office Hours: Mon., 5:15-6:15 pm, and
by appointment

PLEASE NOTE: Please attend the information meeting on Monday, September 8, 12:00-1:00 pm, in Olin 103. If you missed the meeting, but would still like to enroll in PS99, please be sure to email the faculty immediately.

Course website: <http://ase.tufts.edu/polsci/civic/internOverview.htm#internships>
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): <http://ase.tufts.edu/polsci/civic/faq.htm>

Course Overview

The Department of Political Science offers the opportunity for field work or internship experience through Political Science 99. This course enables students to combine the academic study of politics including American government, international relations, comparative politics, and political theory, with practical work experience in the public or private sector in Massachusetts.

Each student is responsible for obtaining the internship position. The list of internship is available on the course website. Students must meet periodically with me during office hours to discuss their paper topics and the progress of their internships.

PS 99 is a full-credit course, and offered in both fall and spring semesters. There is no pass/fail option for PS99. Please note that the internship must be taken concurrently with PS99 in either fall or spring semester. PS99 can be taken only once by a Tufts student during their undergraduate years. We do not accept full-year internships. PS99 is not offered during the summer, and students cannot get receive the PS99 course credit for summer internships. Students interested in pursuing an internship in Washington DC should apply to the Tufts in Washington Program.

Course Objectives

This course has three objectives. First, like all other political science courses, PS 99 seeks to develop an understanding of political processes, and an ability to critically analyze political systems, relationships and problems.

Internships provide students with an opportunity to test concepts learned in the classroom in a professional or organizational setting. Second, the course seeks to encourage students' capacity for intelligent, responsible citizenship. It does this by exposing students

to the day-to-day workings of various government agencies including local, state, and federal, private sector firms, non-profit political and advocacy organizations, or political parties. Third, PS 99 provides the opportunity to develop professional skills and awareness of the marketplace, and also to explore possible postgraduate employment or graduate study.

Prerequisites & Application Forum

Prerequisites for applying to PS 99 are:

1. Sophomore standing or the consent of the instructor.
2. Completion of two foundation (Category 1) courses in political science, as stipulated in the Department of Political Science.

Students wishing to take this course must submit the PS99 application form (available on course website) to the instructor's faculty mailbox, no later than the second week of classes. This brief form requires the student to:

1. provide the name, address, telephone number, and supervisor's name and signature for the proposed internship. Please also make sure to list your supervisor's email as well.
2. briefly describe the proposed internship position and the work involved.
3. discuss how that position relates to the student's previous course work in political science.

Course Requirements

There are three requirements for this course:

1. an internship position (paid or unpaid) involving approximately 8-16 hours employment per week.
2. one department course related to the position, taken in the past or current semester.
3. Writing requirement: The student must complete *either two 10 page papers or one 20 page term paper that relates field experience to academic materials.*

For the writing requirement, the student is encouraged to incorporate at least ten academic and other relevant sources (books, articles, policy reports, magazine/newspaper articles) for the two 10 page papers or the 20 page term paper. The key task of this

requirement is for the student to make the connection between their internship experiences and the academic literature.

There are two deadlines for the writing requirement: Monday, October 27, and Monday, December 15. The student must submit either the first paper or a draft of the term paper (10 pages) on the first date; and the second paper or the completed term paper on the second date.

Grading

Students are required to take PS 99 for a letter grade. There are two components of the grade:

Paper: 50%

Written evaluation, by the internship supervisor: 50%