

Washington Internship

Baylor University
Political Science (PSC) 3392

Students will earn three credits by completing the requirements described below. The primary goal of the course is to acquire hands-on experience through a substantive internship in Washington, DC and, by doing so, advance your career goals and understanding of government, politics, and policymaking.

Course Requirements

1. Complete a minimum of 100 hours at an internship in Washington, DC. The choice of the internship site is flexible and aimed at maximizing the usefulness of your experience. Examples of internship sites include congressional offices, executive agencies, interest groups, lobbying firms, and think tanks. The Program Director is happy to assist you in identifying possible internship opportunities, but it is ultimately the student's responsibility for applying to and securing the internship.
2. Before your internship begins, you will write a 2-3 page background report on your selected internship site that explains (a) its mission/goals and history, (b) how it functions and operates, and (c) your anticipated place in the organization and details of your duties and responsibilities. You will upload the report (as with all written work for the course) to our course [Canvas page in the Assignments tab](#).
3. Each Friday you will write and upload a 1-2 paragraph summary of your tasks and activities at the internship during that week. Be sure to note any experiences that were particularly important or memorable, as these can be very useful for taking stock of your internship after it is over.
4. When you have completed the internship, you will write and upload a 4-5 page reflective summary where you identify (a) the skills you learned/honed, (b) what experiences were particularly meaningful, (c) how the internship will aid your career goals going forward, and (d) one area of legislation, policy, or project with which you were especially involved or interested and discuss the progress (or lack thereof) that was made.

Your grade for the course will be contingent on completing the requirements above by the end of the Summer 2 session (mid August).

Washington Internship Program Director

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