

WGS 310 – Internship Paper and End-of-Semester Presentation

The Internship Paper

In general, the paper you will write at or near the conclusion of your internship should describe the nature of, activities, and populations involved in your internship and relate that experience to issues that have been emphasized in prior or present coursework.

A minimum length for an essay of this nature is 8 typed, double-spaced pages with appropriate citations and bibliography.

In addition to concretely describing your internship activities and the specific organization(s) and populations with which you interacted, your essay should:

- relate your internship experience to at least 2 specific readings/theorists that you have encountered over the course of your WGS classes; this means that you should clearly identify all texts and authors in your paper and quote/summarize their arguments clearly enough to demonstrate their relevance to your experience.
- provide enough context from and about the readings/theorists so that your reader can see that you have a clear idea of when and in response to what circumstances these authors were working.
- **fully discuss** the connections you see between your internship experience and those (at least) 2 readings/theorists
- finally, reflect on how the internship has impacted your understanding of your role as an activist and the importance of social justice activism in general, and in particular, the resistant social problem(s) your internship given you insight into

You should plan to meet with the WGS Director at least once during the later part of the semester to discuss your internship paper.

The internship paper will be evaluated on the fulfillment of the above criteria and according to the conventional standards of competent collegiate writing. As the primary document about your internship experience, this paper will figure as the single most important component of your internship grade.

All internship papers should be posted to the WGS 310 Moodle site for the course by 1:00 p.m. on the Monday after the last day of classes for the semester. (I will remind you of this requirement. See the link to WGS 310 Moodle site for more details.)

Presentation during the Final Exam Period:

As a way to wrap up your internship experience and enable you to share what you've learned with others who have also been involved in internships, we will identify some possible dates during the final exam period when we could meet as a group. I will contact you as the semester draws to a close to schedule this presentation time.

At that meeting, you should be prepared to present the highlights of your internship paper, i.e., describe the internship and briefly elaborate on how you have connected it to your prior course work in WGS and the issue of activism in general.

That presentation will be very informal. Primarily, I would like for it to be the springboard for you to talk about your internship experience and reflect on it further in light of what others have to say about their own experiences.

I am, of course, happy to meet with you any time during the semester to discuss the internship and your paper. So don't hesitate to email me and schedule an appointment.

Also, please feel free to post comments or question to the WG 310 Moodle site forum/message board at any time.