

HPX Department Frequently Asked Questions about Internships

Catalog description HPX490

HPX 490 Practicum for Health Promotion Studies 12 SH

This practicum is designed to provide the student with first-hand experience in a health agency analogous to student teaching for the student majoring in health promotion. The student will observe and then become actively involved with the ongoing health promotion program in a community facility. Students make arrangements for their own placement in conjunction with the University Internship Coordinator. Co-requisite HPX 491.

Students work full time (450 hours) with a preceptor at an organization to determine specific responsibilities for the field experience. *Prerequisite:* A grade of "C" or better in all required HPS courses.

When should I begin thinking about my internship?

You should be thinking about your internship from the time you start the program.

Who do I see about the internship?

You need to contact the Internship Coordinator, Denise Colaianni. You can email her at colaiannid@wcsu.edu

Do I need to prepare before I see the Internship Coordinator?

Yes. Bring a copy of your current resume, a copy of the Internship Eligibility checklist signed by your academic adviser, a current photograph of yourself, and a draft of a cover letter to the appointment with the Internship Coordinator.

Are there restrictions on where I can go to do my internship?

No, as long as the internship has been approved by the Internship Coordinator and appropriate agency personnel.

Is the internship paid?

Typically no. It is more difficult to find a paid internship. However, some level of "stipend" may be offered at some agencies

Is there a prerequisite?

You must meet with your academic advisor to see that you have met all academic requirements before registering for HPX 490 and HPX491

All Wellness Management majors must complete Anatomy and Physiology before their internship.

How much time does the internship take?

The internship requires you complete 450 hours. That is generally completed by working 30 hours per week for 15 weeks.

Is the internship required?

Undergraduates are required to do an internship.

Is there a GPA requirement for the internship?

No, but you must pass all the prerequisite courses as per your program sheet. Some courses have grade requirements.

Am I required to maintain my CPR/First Aid Certification?

Almost all placements require CPR and First Aid certification.

Will there be a background check by my internship site?

Most internship sites now require background checks. Many also require drug testing.

Can I do my internship during the summer?

Yes. HPX 490 and 491 may be taken during the Spring, Summer or Fall semester.

Personal Fitness Certifications

If you are a wellness management major you may want to look into personal fitness certifications. Check out these websites

<http://www.acefitness.org/>

<http://www.nasm.org/>

How many credit hours will I earn?

You will earn 12 credit hours for HPX490 and 1 credit hour for HPX491

Do I have to interview with an agency to get an internship?

Yes. Typically, the university Internship Coordinator (Professor Colaianni) makes the first contact to determine interest of the agency. Students then schedule an appointment for the interview.

How do I dress for the interview?

Business attire.

Following the interview, do I need to do anything?

Yes. It is appropriate to send a thank you note regardless of whether or not you intend to complete the internship at the agency. It is also necessary to inform the university Internship Coordinator about your intentions regarding the prospective internship.

Suggestions

All majors are encouraged to take an active role in the HPX Club.

All majors are strongly encouraged to take courses in Excel and Photoshop at the University Computer Center.