FISH 290 FISHERIES INTERNSHIP
FALL, SPRING, AND SUMMER SEMESTER 2015-2016

Instructor/Office Hours  Meeting Location and Time
Faculty/TBA  N/A

Course Credits  Contact Hours
1 credit (P/F)  Variable; at least 2,400 to 8,000 minutes of approved and supervised scholarly activity

Course Prerequisites
Freshman or sophomore standing. Permission of a Fisheries Division faculty mentor and the SFOS internship coordinator (the coordinator may also be a mentor) after submission and approval of the necessary documents (see below). STAT 200. This course is repeatable for up to 4 credits.

Course Description
Under the supervision and mentorship of a Fisheries Division faculty member and a qualified professional in the field, students will earn internship credit through practical experience. Potential employers of student interns can include the fishing industry, federal and state agencies, academic research programs, non-governmental organizations, and consulting companies. Note that the focus of an internship is the employment experience.

Internship requirements will be agreed upon prior to the student’s enrollment and employment based on a three-way cooperative agreement between the student, employer, and a faculty mentor. Note that this may only be a two-way agreement if the employer is also the faculty mentor.

Course Goal and Student Learning Objectives
One of the primary commitments of the UAF SFOS is the training of future professionals in fisheries. Public agencies and marine industries throughout Alaska and beyond need knowledgeable and experienced freshwater and marine scientists, technicians, economists, social scientists, and managers focused on the larger field of fisheries. Although there is no replacement for the traditional classroom in undergraduate education, professional experience in a fisheries setting offers an opportunity for lasting lessons and integration of classroom learning with real-world experience. Examples of student internship learning outcomes include the following:

1. Sharpen critical thinking, written communication, and/or professional skills;
2. Become familiar with data collection, handling, summary, and/or analysis;
3. Become familiar with the research process.

Note that additional, personalized outcomes should be listed in the Student Internship Agreement and agreed upon by the student, employer, and faculty mentor.

Support/ Disabilities Services
If students need accommodation because of a disability, please contact the faculty mentor and SFOS internship coordinator as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043).

**Instructional Methods**
Students will learn from individual instruction from on-site mentors and their faculty mentor.

**Reading Assignments**
There is no required text for this course. Students will receive a packet that includes the syllabus and Internship Guidelines. A recommended text for this course is *The AFS Guide to Fisheries Employment*, Second Edition, edited by David Hewitt, William Pine, and Alexander Zale.

**Course Calendar**
Seasonal jobs sometimes do not fit conveniently into a single semester or into the summer break from school. The university, SFOS internship coordinator, and faculty mentor will work with the students to develop specific timelines and schedules on a case-by-case basis (see Timeline of Employment assignment below). Where possible, the timelines will fit within the academic calendar. How well the student follows this timeline and communicates any necessary changes with their on-site supervisor and faculty mentor will play a role in their final evaluation. **Note that students will not be allowed to sign-up for internship credit during or after their work experience has been completed. All internships must be approved and all the necessary documentation completed (see below) prior to the agreed upon internship start date.**

**Course Assignments**

1. **Student Internship Agreement** (see attached form): **You will not receive permission to sign up for this course without an approved and signed Student Internship Agreement.** Although the student will responsible for making sure this agreement is completely and accurately filled out and the original document is turned in to the SFOS internship coordinator, all three cooperators (student, employer, and faculty mentor) are required to complete portions of this document and agree on its contents. Once it is completed, copies should be retained by all three cooperators, the SFOS internship coordinator, with the original copy placed in the student’s academic file.

2. **Timeline of employment:** The timeline must provide major landmarks and deadlines for the internship, and will require contribution and confirmation from all three participants (student, employer, and faculty mentor; note that a copy will also be provided to the SFOS internship coordinator). It should include the following information:
   a. Date that the internship begins and ends;
   b. Dates of internship landmarks (e.g., time in field, initiate data collection, etc.);
   c. Deadlines for student assignments (i.e., final summary of internship experience; student journal; resume, including internship under work experience;
   d. Due dates for mid-point and final evaluations from the on-site supervisor;
e. Date that the faculty mentor will notify the SFOS internship coordinator and the student of his/her final grade internship grade.

3. Mid-Point and Final Evaluations (see attached form): Employers are required to fill out these evaluations and review them with the student intern. Once both evaluations are signed, they can be turned in to the faculty mentor for final signature. Originals are to be kept in the student’s academic file maintained by the SFOS Academic Programs Office; copies should also be retained by the student, employer, and faculty mentor.

4. Internship Summary: A one-page summary of the final internship experience completed by the student is required for submission to the faculty mentor, with a particular focus on how the internship met the learning objectives outlined in the Student Internship Agreement. This summary should be double spaced and in a font size ranging from 10 to 12. Note that this is a summary; therefore, detailed information is not a requirement. A final copy will also be placed in the student’s academic file.

5. Resume: Students will be required to submit a pre- and post-internship resume for evaluation to their faculty mentor and the SFOS Internship Coordinator. The post-internship resume should be updated to include activities and skills associated with their internship experience.

Grading
PASS/FAIL. For all internships, failure to turn in any of the required assignments is grounds for a failing grade. Because the internship is based on the individual experience, a grading curve does not apply. To pass this course, turn in all required assignments and evaluations and receive a satisfactory final evaluation from the on-site supervisor. Assignments are as follows (details for each assignment are listed above): signed Student Internship Agreement and timeline of employment, pre- and post-internship resume, mid-point evaluation, final evaluation, and a one-page summary of the internship experience.

Course Policies

1. Late Assignments: All assignments are due to the faculty mentor by the dates indicated on the internship timeline. If a student cannot turn in an assignment on time for a legitimate reason, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the faculty mentor (not the SFOS internship coordinator or on-site mentor/employer) prior to the date in question to not to receive a penalty.

2. Academic Honesty: All assignments are to be entirely the student’s own work, unless the student receives specific instructions to the contrary. All aspects of this course are covered by the UAF Honor system. Any suspected violations will be promptly reported and appropriate action(s) will be taken. Honesty in your academic work will develop into professional integrity. The faculty, staff, and students of the UAF will not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty.
Guidelines for the Student Internship Agreement

Students are required to turn in the Student Internship Agreement prior to employment to their faculty mentor. The original form will be filed in the student’s folder in the SFOS Academic Program Office. Copies will be provided to the student, on-site supervisor, faculty mentor, and SFOS Internship Coordinator.

Position Description: Student interns will be assigned duties both inside and outside of the internship learning objectives. However, students will not be required to undertake tasks for others that may be said to be of a personal nature not directly related to the performance of organizational activities, such as picking up “dry cleaning” or preparing personal correspondence. Duties such as making coffee, making “runs” for food, or clean-up duties may be assigned to students only as these activities may be shared among other employees of the organization. Such shared duties must be enumerated.

Internship Learning Objectives and Total Credit Hours: Students should have learning objectives that reflect upper-division credits for the internship. See the attached course syllabus for sample learning objectives.

Internship Timeline: The timeline should provide major landmarks and deadlines for the internship. It will require contribution and confirmation of all three participants. It should include the following information:

a. Date that employment begins and ends;
b. Dates of internship landmarks (e.g., time in field, initiate data collection, etc.);
c. Deadlines for student assignments (i.e., final summary of internship experience; student journal; resume, including internship under work experience);
d. Due dates for mid-point and final evaluations from the on-site supervisor;
e. Date that the faculty will be required to notify academic office and the student of final grade received.
STUDENT INTERN EVALUATION FORM

□ Mid-point □ Final  

Date:__________

Organization:_________________________________________________________________

Student:______________________________          Employer:__________________________

Please circle rating in each category (1=poor; 3=satisfactory; 5 = excellent)

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<th>Category</th>
<th>1</th>
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<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
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<td>Independent planning and organization skills</td>
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<td>Demonstrates self-initiative but requests assistance when needed</td>
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<td>Ability to learn and implement novel tasks</td>
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<td>Data handling, entry, proofing, and/or compilation</td>
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<td>Cooperatively works as a team member</td>
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<td>Handles mishaps with maturity and flexibility</td>
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<td>Accepts and utilizes constructive criticism</td>
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<td>Original and critical thinking skills</td>
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<td>Overall work ethic</td>
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Overall performance: 1 2 3 4 5

Outstanding work qualities:

Areas that need work:

Additional comments:

Signatures:
On-site supervisor: ____________________________ Date: ____________________

Student: ____________________________ Date: ____________________

Faculty Sponsor: ____________________________ Date: ____________________