



MERCER
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number
LAS 225

Course Title
Liberal Arts Studies Internship

Credits
1

Hours: 60 (Other)

Co- or Pre-requisites:
ENG 102; permission of
internship advisor

Implementation
Spring 2022

Catalog description: Liberal Arts program students in their last 30 credits gain practical experience in an approved social science or humanities-related setting outside of the college, guided by a faculty internship advisor. Interns demonstrate their ability to apply liberal arts concepts and objectives via employer evaluation, written self-evaluation, and discussion with advisor.

General Education Category:
Not GenEd

Course coordinator: Barbara Hamilton, 609-570-3544,
hamiltob@mccc.edu

Required texts & Other materials: No text. Access to the course Blackboard shell is necessary for submission of online journal, self-evaluation or other documentation, LA background information related to the internship, and the Internship Handbook.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply knowledge gained from the study of liberal arts disciplines to professional settings. (Supports ILG 1, 4-6, 8-11; PLO 1, 3)
2. Relate diverse workplace practices, cultures and viewpoints to methodologies and theoretical knowledge acquired from humanities and social science disciplines. (Supports ILG 5, 6, 8; PLO 1, 3)
3. Articulate both orally and in writing the relationship between their academic course of study and future career and professional choices. (Supports ILG 1; PLO 1, 2)
4. Reflect critically on the value of experiential learning to their personal, professional, and academic growth. (Supports ILG 11; PLO 1, 3)
5. Affirm the value of and apply ethical standards to the circumstances they confront in school and the workplace. (Supports ILG 1, 9; PLO 3)

6. Apply Liberal Arts training in abstract reasoning and research to identify problems and seek solutions during the internship experience. (Supports ILG 1, 4, 10, 11; PLO 3, 4)

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG): Depending upon the nature of the internship, a student intern could demonstrate competence in any of our ILGs; however, we expect all student interns to demonstrate competence in ILGs 1, 4-6, and 8-11.

Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Institutional Learning Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Institutional Learning Goal 5. Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective: Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples

Institutional Learning Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical frameworks, issues, and situations.

Institutional Learning Goal 10. Information Literacy: Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Program Learning Outcomes for Liberal Arts (LA.AA) (PLO)

1. Understand the vocabulary, methods, and the major concepts present in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences;
2. Articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively, both verbally and in writing;
3. Perform a series of thinking tasks including speculation, analysis, and synthesis (i.e., abstract reasoning);
4. Utilize research materials and methodologies;
5. Speak, write, read, and comprehend a world language commensurate with the level of study

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I: Introduction to the Internship (Supports Course SLO #1-3)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to...

- articulate clearly to the advisor the internship provider's expectations,
- find and understand the resources on the Blackboard course shell,
- review and articulate concepts and values from previous Liberal Arts coursework,
- speculate as to how those concepts and values may be applied to the internship experience, and
- demonstrate understanding of the need for balance between the internship and completion of other coursework.

Unit II: Applying Liberal Arts skills and thinking to the internship experience (Supports Course SLO #1-6)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to...

- apply subject-area knowledge gained from study of Liberal Arts program coursework to field experience demonstrated through journaling, keeping a log, or discussions with advisor;
- evaluate a prospective career based on the internship experience;
- think critically about ethical situations that arise during the internship experience;
- apply research methods and critical thinking to the internship experience;
- adapt interpersonal skills learned through liberal arts coursework (collaborative learning, receptive listening, respect for difference, promptness) to the internship experience; and
- if possible, use world language skills to enhance performance.

Unit III: Self-Evaluation (Supports Course SLO #1-3)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to...

- create requirements (through discussion with the advisor) for the self-evaluation that fit the scope of the internship,
- evaluate personal growth, interpersonal awareness and experiential knowledge resulting from the internship experience, and
- view the internship experience through the lens of Liberal Arts methods and values.

Evaluation of student learning:

30% Online or onsite consultations with advisor will help the student continually reflect on how to apply Liberal Arts learning and values to the internship experience while it is taking place and articulate how the practical experience of the internship relates to the skills and critical approaches to problem solving gained in Liberal Arts coursework.

10% Written response to the internship experience (options: log, journal, notes, etc.) will help the student capture and remember reactions to incidents during the internship and see them as part of a larger experience. In the journals and notes, students will begin recording the connections between theory and practice that will culminate in the self-evaluation.

20% Final performance report from internship supervisor will provide the advisor with another point of reference on the student's growth, abilities to perform in a professional setting.

40% Self-Evaluation: written project articulating what a student has gained from the experience after the internship has ended: growth, insights and need for further growth. The student will demonstrate competence in all six course student learning outcomes in writing this self-evaluation.