

What is a Service Learning Internship?

Service learning is a teaching method that supports students to learn and apply academic, social, and personal skills to improve the community, promote personal growth, and become better citizens. Service learning recognizes that people learn best by applying knowledge and theory to practice. Students do this by serving the community, while learning from experienced service providers and from the clients and community members themselves.

The Institute for Children, Youth & Families, in cooperation with the Division of Family Studies and Human Development, offers a service learning internship. The internship helps students develop personal and professional competencies by working with community human service organizations. Participants are FSHD majors and minors considering careers in counseling, teaching, social services, family law, and related areas.

Interns earn university credit for working at their placement organization and completing academic coursework that is rooted in the service learning principles of reflection, demonstration, and reciprocity. Students are encouraged to think critically about social issues in the context of their field experience. Students may complete 1-2 semesters at the same internship site.

Students may enroll for 2-6 units in fall, spring, or summer semesters. Interns are expected to work a total of 45 hours per 1 university unit. The table below lists the required work hours based on your enrollment.

Enrolled Units	Required Semester Hours	Hours per Week (based on 15 weeks)
2	90	6
3	135	9
4	180	12
5	225	15
6	270	18

Interns will be expected to:

- ✓ Work at their placement organization each week on a schedule to be arranged with the site supervisor
- ✓ Complete course assignments as outlined in the course syllabus
- ✓ Participate in all of the 2-hour internship seminars, to be held on designated Friday mornings four times throughout the semester

