

Survey Research Internship
POLS 5140
Spring 2018

Instructor: Professor Hood
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Course Website: [ELC](#)
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Course Overview

This course is designed for students who are interested in working in the survey research industry following graduation or those with planned careers requiring a working knowledge of this sector. In this course students will practice methods related to survey research through a supervised internship at the SPIA Survey Research Center. This course is largely based on active student participation in the activities outlined in the section below.

Course Requirements/Expectations

- Students enrolling in POLS 5140 are expected to work two-shifts (4 hours) any week in which the Survey Research Center is actively fielding a poll. Interviewer training will be provided for students at the beginning of the semester.
- Outside of working in the Survey Research Center, students will also attend various outside meetings. During the course of the semester a number of practicum of practicum sessions will be held in order to review activities and to apply theory to practice. These sessions are designed to explicate the work in which the SRC is engaged. Topics to be covered may include, but are not limited to, sampling issues, survey questionnaire design, weighting, compiling and interpreting data, and preparing reports.
- During the semester a number of meetings with representatives from the survey research industry will also be scheduled. These meetings will allow students to learn more about career paths in this sector.
- At the end of the semester students will be required to submit an essay that focuses on a challenge currently facing the survey research industry and potential solutions. A detailed set of instructions for this project will be posted on ELC.

Required Reading Materials

Readings will be made available to students electronically on ELC.

Grading Scale

This a 4 credit hour, non-graded course. At the end of the semester students will be assigned one of the following:

- S: Satisfactory
- U: Unsatisfactory