

## **Internship or Teaching Practicum**

The student will use the internship or practicum as an opportunity to investigate a field of study that fits into their current course study. The exposure should allow the student to experience professional work environments, publish work, and make professional connections. The course is designed to allow writers to reflect and critically interpret their work experience. Internship opportunities have ranged from freelance writing, journalism, publishing companies, agent readers, archivists, political writing, and corporate communications. Academic teaching practicums can also meet the class requirement. Students can apply for a WestConn Graduate Assistant position, teach at another institution of higher learning, teach writing at a K-12 level, or volunteer to teach at a literacy center or in a school.

**Student:** xxx

**Faculty Member:** Ron Samul

**Course Number:** WRT569

**Semester and Year:** Spring 2017

**Credit Hours:** 4

### **Course Description:**

The student will work as a tutor in the WCSU Writing Center, twenty hours per week, supervised by Dr. Kelli Custer. Under the guidance of MFA mentor Ron Samul, through Blackboard, she will report on her internship and reflect upon how the experience contributes to her professional development.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Using the internship experience to define and create professional attitudes and goals.
- The ability to critically understand the obligations and performance of a professional outlet or setting.
- Create writing that reflects professional participation in the field.
- Students will use of video production to present their experience in their internship.

### **Requirements:**

- You will be spending most of the time in this course working and interacting with your internship/practicum supervisor on site. However, this course will give the student a chance to share and discuss the work they are doing.
- Assignments will consist of discussion entries every two weeks. There will be a midterm writing assignment and a video production as a final product. Two week assignments will be posted on the Blackboard System through WCSU.
- You will have to seek a letter from your on-site supervisor that explains your work and completion of the work during the time of the internship/practicum.

### **Evaluation:**

You will be evaluated on your participation, completed assignments, and the written confirmation from your onsite supervisor that you have completed your work on site. Midterm and final projects will be graded.

## **Midterm Project**

Write a 5-7 page research article based on your internship or field of study. This should be double spaced and include MLA formatting and citation. Due dates will be on the course calendar and on the schedule at the end of this document. Topic will vary from student to student. Anyone who would like to submit their topic before writing the entire assignment is encouraged to do so.

## **Final Project**

You will create a 3-5 minute video concerning your experience during your internship. It can be an overview of the entire internship or practicum or it can be something very specific. It does not have to be all video, in fact, a slide show or images might be a better fit for your video. You will be expected to use a movie making product, some of which are free. These programs and tutorials will be included in a folder on the website for your reference. You should have captions, a title, images, and/or video, and sound. There will be technical guidelines that will be included in a folder for reference during the course.

**Instructor Contact:** The instructor will be responding to bi-weekly feedback. Midterm projects and final projects. If you would like to ask a question or you have a concern, please feel free to email. A midterm and final email or phone call will be arranged for grade and progress updates. You can and should know where you stand in the course all the time; if you have any questions or concern about your progress in the course, please be sure to let me know. If you are not doing the work or meeting my expectations, you will be contacted with issues and intervention strategies.

## **Copy Editing & Drafts**

The MFA in Creative and Professional Writing is based on developing writers who are emerging into the world of publishing, professional communications, and education. Each course is a graduate level course with expectations of high quality. All work submitted to this class will be free of copy editing issues including typos, incorrect word choice, grammatical errors, punctuation errors, and other erroneous oversights. In this course, work that is viewed by the instructor as “First” or “Rough Draft” will receive an incomplete. Students should revise and resubmit for a grade. You may rewrite as often as you would like. If work is not resubmitted, incomplete work will be converted to zeroes at the final grading period.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious academic offenses and will be treated as such in this course and this program. Students should familiarize themselves with the university’s policy on plagiarism in the student handbook, available online. The penalty for plagiarism in the MFA program is course failure and, in most cases, dismissal from the program. Any academic dishonesty will be reported to the appropriate Dean(s) and other university officials.

## **Department of Writing, Linguistics, and Creative Process**

### **Policy on Academic Honesty**

The Department of Writing, Linguistics, and Creative Process follows the University guidelines regarding academic honesty and issues of plagiarism, which are available in the catalog on the University website at <https://www.wcsu.edu/catalogs/undergraduate/academic-services-procedures/>. In the specific context of writing, we highlight some particular problems with plagiarism. Plagiarism violations include:

- Submitting material that is not one's own.
- Using material – words and/or ideas – directly from a source without proper citation and attribution.
- Submitting a project written for one course, past or present, as new material in another course without the explicit permission of the instructor.

In accordance with University policy, plagiarism on an assignment may be grounds for failing the course and the filing of an Academic Dishonesty Report, which will escalate the situation to higher administrative decisions.

We encourage students to speak with us openly and honestly regarding any questions surrounding academic honesty and plagiarism.

### **Accommodations**

Any student who needs accommodations of any kind to complete this course may make arrangement through Access Ability Services, <http://www.wcsu.edu/accessibility/>, (203) 837-8225.

## **Schedule of Assignment**

Jan 18, 2016	Course Begins
Fed 1, 2016	1 <sup>st</sup> Entry and Response Due
Feb 15, 2016	2 <sup>nd</sup> Entry and Response Due
March 1, 2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> Entry and Response Due
March 15, 2016	4 <sup>th</sup> Entry and Response Due
March 29, 2016	<b>Midterm Paper Due</b>
April 12, 2016	5 <sup>th</sup> Entry and Response Due
April 26, 2016	6 <sup>th</sup> Entry and Response Due
May 3, 2016	<b>Video Project Due</b>
May 10, 2016	Last Day of Class
TBA	Grades Due