Women’s Studies Internship  
WMST 498

Instructor:  
Office Hours:  
Office:  
Phone:  
Email:

Course Description  
This internship gives students the opportunity to practically apply feminist theoretical insights they have learned throughout their course of study. The Women’s Studies internship program is designed for the student to take knowledge gained in the classroom into the professional environment, and to help graduates develop skills for a range of career trajectories. Students will intern at a business or community organization that provides an opportunity to study issues of equity and social justice in a real-world context. Internships provide valuable skills for students striving to make sense of lived experience in terms of race, class, sexuality, gender, and other forms of identity. Students will situate their learning through hands-on work in a field that is pertinent to their undergraduate studies and long-term career goals.

Prerequisites  
Students enrolled in the course must be junior or senior standing and must have completed all General Education courses that build Core Objectives 1-3 and satisfy Core Objectives 4-8.

Core Objective  
This class satisfies Core Objective 14 of the Silver Core Curriculum:

• CO14 – Application  
Students will be able to demonstrate their knowledge and skills developed in previous Core and major classes by completing a project or structured experience of practical significance.

Through the internship, students will demonstrate and integrate knowledge and skills from the following Core Objectives: Effective Composition and Communication (CO1), Critical Analysis and Use of Information (CO3), Cultures, Societies, and Individuals (CO6), and Diversity and Equity (CO10).
Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

• Apply feminist, critical race, and other social theories to solve real-world challenges. (CO3, CO6, CO10, CO14)

• Acquire knowledge in a new setting to enhance Women’s Studies coursework. (CO6, CO10, CO14)

• Apply critical thinking and writing skills to gender equity and social justice issues in local communities. (CO1, CO3, CO6, CO10, CO14)

Internship Site Selection:
With guidance from the faculty advisor, students will contact an organization about the possibility of an internship and the potential scope of responsibilities. The student, faculty advisor, and organizational contact will meet prior to the internship to discuss and agree upon the parameters of the position.

Required Coursework
Internship: Students will work at least 80 hours over a semester (approximately 5-6 hours per week). The student, faculty advisor, and internship supervisor will set an appropriate schedule prior to the start date.

Meetings with Faculty Advisor: In addition to completing time at organization, the student will hold occasional meetings with a faculty advisor (4-5 times each semester) to discuss challenges, progress, and projects. In these meetings, the links between previous studies, readings, and the internship will be discussed.

Log and Reflection Papers (3): An internship log or journal will be completed throughout the internship. Students will detail the work they have done each week, the projects that are in progress, and the personal experience of the work. Students will submit three brief reflection papers based on their experience, during Weeks 4, 8, and 12 of the semester.

Final Report: A final report (approximately 10 pages) will be due during the final week of the semester. The paper should outline what was gained from the internship and how it relates to gender and feminist theories studied in previous coursework.

Grading
The final grade will be “Satisfactory” (equivalent to “C” or better) or “Unsatisfactory.” This evaluation will reflect feedback from the internship supervisor and the quality of submitted written work.
Academic Standards and Ethics
Academic integrity is our “currency” here in a university setting. Any academic dishonesty—such as plagiarism—will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade in the course. The UNR catalog outlines the university’s policy regarding academic standards. If you have further questions or would like clarification about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please see your faculty advisor.

Statement of Disability Services
The Gender, Race, and Identity/Women’s Studies Program and the University of Nevada, Reno are committed to providing equal opportunities in education for all students. If you have a disability for which you will need to request accommodations, please contact your faculty advisor and the Disability Resource Center (Thompson Building, Suite 101, phone: 784-6000) as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements.

Audio and Video Recording
The Provost has asked faculty to share UNR’s policy regarding audio and video recording of university courses: “Surreptitious or covert videotaping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may be given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded.”