

Information for Placement Sites

About Social Ecology?

The School of Social Ecology is an interdisciplinary academic unit whose scholarly research and instruction is informed by and contributes to knowledge in the social, behavioral, legal, and environmental fields

What is Field Study?

As part of our undergraduate degree program faculty have developed the field study requirement to engage students in active participation, provide opportunities to examine social problems, evaluate the merit of ideas presented in the classroom, and educate them in how to conduct naturalistic observations and investigations.

What is the placement site's role?

Placements sites provide a learning environment where students actively engage in the day-to-day operations of the site and conduct research and observations. Supervisors provide 1:1 supervision, feedback and mentoring.

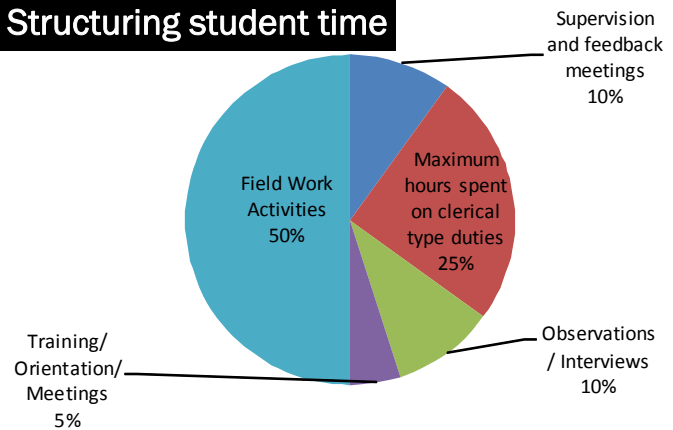
What is the student's role?

The role of the student at most placement sites is that of a participant observer. Students are expected to be professional, engaged, inquisitive, and ready to learn and contribute. We ask that agencies commit to being a site for a minimum of one academic year.

What are the supervisor's responsibilities?

- ▶ Recruit and accept qualified students on a quarterly basis for 1 full academic year. Sites that are accepted mid-year are expected to continue through June of the following academic year.
- ▶ Notify all students who apply about availability of opportunities.
- ▶ Structure the field work to provide a learning opportunity directly related to curriculum in Social Ecology.
- ▶ Develop and assign responsibilities, so that students may learn both technical and non-technical skills.
- ▶ Clearly communicate expectations and responsibilities to students.
- ▶ Adhere to program deadlines.
- ▶ Schedule hours during the placement period so that student can complete the hours required.
- ▶ Provide training, supervision and feedback to each student - approximately 1 hour per week.
- ▶ Confirm students in field study placements are authorized by Social Ecology by reviewing field study Agreement Forms.
- ▶ Provide a verbal and written evaluation to the student and certify the number of hours the student completed via the evaluation form.
- ▶ Contact the Field study Director if there are any problems or issues that cannot be resolved with the student.
- ▶ Nominate outstanding students for recognition.

Structuring student time



The caliber of student from UCI is always a notch above the rest. Obviously you are motivating your students to expect more, inquire more and give more during their exposure to our program... They are always welcome."

Sergeant Dale Johnson, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Carson Station

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How should opportunities be structured?

Ideal placement sites provide students with a pre-professional experience and structure activities that allow the student to:

- ▶ Observe current social problems and evaluate intervention strategies;
- ▶ Contribute to the day-to-day activities of the organization by working on duties and tasks related to Social Ecology curriculum.
- ▶ Develop an understanding of organizational goals and objectives;
- ▶ Perceive relationships between theories learned in the classroom and practice experienced in the field; and
- ▶ Develop interpersonal and technical competencies required in the workplace.

What types of placements are Social Ecology Students interested in? For students pursuing a degree in...

Criminology, Law and Society we have established internship options in the areas of corrections, law and legal services, police, and public policy. These students often interested in pursue advanced degrees in law or criminal justice. Internships of particular interest may focus on environmental, criminal or civil law, law enforcement or corrections, juvenile justice and diversion, services for victims of crime, public policy analysis, or evaluation research. Students have coursework selected from those offered in the sociology of law, criminology, law enforcement, criminal and civil legal systems, environmental law, family law, juvenile justice, and public policy.

Psychology and Social Behavior we maintain internship opportunities in the areas of health, education, counseling, public policy, and geriatric services. Our students have completed undergraduate courses in child, adolescent and adult development, health and pre-clinical psychology, social and community psychology, social problems, and public policy. They often in pursue advanced degrees in counseling, psychology, or education. Internships of particular interest may focus on counseling, education or child care, industrial health or occupational psychology, community outreach, public health, gerontology, public policy development, research or program evaluation.

Urban Studies we offer a selection of internships in the areas of environmental education, planning, public policy and health. These students have completed courses in community development, sustainability, environmental design and/or governance. Internships of particular interest may focus on urban planning, public policy analysis, architecture and design, environmental psychology and law, resource management, evaluation research, environmental and occupational health, industrial hygiene, or risk management. Ideal opportunities will help students achieve the expected learning outcomes established by the faculty: (a) outline interconnections among the physical, environmental, social, economic, and political dimensions of cities and urban life; (b) discern among alternative approaches to solving urban problems; (c) sketch the facts and underlying commonalities of global urbanization: and (d) productively engage the concepts and controversies in one or more main substantive areas within urban studies, including: (1) urban and community development, (2) urban governance, (3) urban & environmental sustainability, and (4) urban & environmental design.

What type of activities are appropriate for field study students?

- ▶ Tutoring, mentoring, teaching
- ▶ Counseling
- ▶ Presenting
- ▶ Grant writing
- ▶ Conducting client interviews
- ▶ Collecting, compiling and analyzing data
- ▶ Resource & referral updates
- ▶ Needs assessments
- ▶ Program Evaluation
- ▶ Shadowing professionals
- ▶ Coordinating programs & events
- ▶ Researching issues or cases and summarizing results

For more information or an application to become a listed placement site
<http://fieldstudy.sococo.uci.edu/>

The Field Study Process



Recruit & Hire
(1-2 months before field work period)

Orient and supervise field work (during placement period)



Review and sign agreements to confirm student placements

Evaluate, give verbal feedback, verify hours
(due on last day of field work)

