

LOCAL POLITICAL INTERNSHIP SYLLABUS – FALL 2012

Prof. L Powell, Harkness 324

Office hours: M, W 2-3:30. I am often available at other times—just email to see if I am free.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Each intern should arrange a mutually satisfactory work schedule of 10 - 12 hours per week with his or her supervisor.
2. You should start work in the first week or two of the semester and, hopefully, be involved quickly in an interesting assignment. Please see me if there are any problems.
3. Remember that you represent the University in an on-going program with a political or governmental agency. Your cordial reception as a UR intern is a consequence of the good work of your predecessors. Nonetheless you must still earn responsibility by demonstrating *discretion*, courtesy and reliability.
4. Feel free to talk with me about any problem you may have with the internship. Email me at Lynda.Powell@rochester.edu to set up an appointment. I am often in my office, but be sure to email first to set up an appointment.
5. Be sure you are registered for the course. You may register online. It may still take time for your registration to appear in your course list.

IMPORTANT DATES (Deadlines):

1. Be sure you are registered by the last day to add internships—**September 20th** this year.
2. **Friday, October 5th** - A one or two page emailed description of your work in the agency is due. This is essentially a checkpoint for me to make sure that your internship is working out satisfactorily.
4. **Friday November 16th** - An outline or one page description (typed) of the paper you intend to write is due. It must be detailed and informative. Most of the library work should have been accomplished **BEFORE** you submit this outline or paper. I will be glad to talk to you about your papers at any time during the semester. And I am glad to read a draft of your paper and give you comments as long as you turn it in at least a week before the final due date. Please put a physical copy in my mailbox on the 3rd floor of Harkness.
4. **December 16th** - A 20-25 page paper that places some of the internship experience in a broader perspective is due. The paper should involve some library research and should **NOT** be a description of the internship. Rather, the internship experience should suggest a topic to explore. You may use your experience to illustrate the conceptual framework

you develop. For example, one year a student who interned for a private law firm developed a model of defense attorney behavior from the criminal justice literature and discussed its ability to explain the behavior he observed. Another student developed a framework for evaluating the services provided by the Legal Assistance Corp. Yet another approach is to analyze a substantive or organizational problem encountered from some perspective that will allow you to suggest and compare possible solutions. **It is essential that your paper be related to your internship in some very direct fashion.** Don't just use your internship as a lead into a topic. This should be a paper that you could not have written without your internship experience.

I am flexible regarding the format of your paper; however, I have found it necessary to add the following statement provided by the College.

Plagiarism

Students sometimes arrive at college uncertain of what constitutes misuse of another person's express ideas.

This statement is designed to explain the limits normally used to define plagiarism.

1. Plagiarism is literary theft, intentional or unintentional. It is the use of a unique idea or phrase which does not originate with the user, without proper acknowledgement of the source.
2. In written papers due credit to the original source of major or unique ideas (i.e., ideas which you could not and did not arrive at by yourself) must be given the form of footnotes or clear allusions at the proper places in the paper itself. These precise indications of source must be given whether the material is paraphrased or quoted directly. An appended bibliography only is insufficient acknowledgement.
3. Quotation marks must enclose all direct quotations even though the quoted material is more than occasional phrases interspersed with original observations.