

HONORS INTERNSHIP SYLLABUS

POLITICAL SCIENCE 6960

HINCKLEY INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

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Course Description:

Hinckley interns must register for Political Science 6960 credit. The course credit is awarded to honors students who complete the hours required for the internship and the academic assignments for the Hinckley Intern program. The academic assignments include writing a rigorous academic research paper (length is stipulated below), cultivating an annotated bibliography, and a book review on the life of Robert H. Hinckley, his public service, and a personal reflection on how you can become involved in public service.

The primary justification for the award of credit is that the internship experience must be educational. Hinckley interns are exposed to new and significant persons and ideas which provide opportunities for growth and learning about the political processes from various angles. While the intern experience is a major component of the program, the academic requirements (cultivating a bibliography and writing a significant research paper) are as equally important and crucial to the intern grade. This honors course is designed to challenge the student and demand a higher level of academic standard than a normal undergraduate course.

Readings:

1. The Honors student is required to cultivate an annotated bibliography surrounding a certain domain of scholarly writings pertaining to their internship placement and/or personal interest. The bibliography should include 6-8 readings including academic journals, scholarly articles, books, policy papers, etc.
2. *Robert H. Hinckley: Getting to Know Him*. Gardner, Bae B (required, available at Hinckley Institute for \$10.00)
3. *Newspapers: NY Times, U.S.A. Today, Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News, etc.* (recommended)

I. Grading Criteria

Your grade will be based on the following items:

1. Research Paper	30%
2. Supervisor Evaluation of intern (Includes verification of hours worked for local interns)	30%
3. Bibliography and Summaries	20%
4. Meeting Attendance	10%
5. Book Review	5%
6. Student Evaluation of internship	5%

1. RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT

Students are required to write a **15 page** double-spaced rigorous academic research paper. Papers should be analytical and research oriented, though some description might be necessary, and should be based on a significant question or subject of study related to your internship. Work on the paper should begin early and take place throughout the internship. Your paper should NOT be a description of your experience or a catalog of “How I Spent my internship...”. Papers must be in American Psychological Association (A.P.A.) format.

******All Honors papers will be reviewed by an additional regular faculty member in the Department of Political Science.******

Subject:

- Select a subject that interests you and pertains to your internship. The topic should be related to public policy, politics or government in some way. Paper topics must be approved by the Hinckley Institute. This process will allow you to consider suggestions early and receive some kind of feedback in advance of committing a large amount of time and research. Any subsequent changes in your research topic should also be communicated briefly in writing.

Format:

- **Research Paper Format:**
 - 1. Introduction**
 - 2. A clear statement of the central research or hypothesis**
 - 3. Present evidence or information supporting and/or rejecting the central question**
 - 4. Summary or conclusion**
 - 5. Bibliography**
- Roughly 8 weeks into your internship you must submit a **Paper Proposal** of the topic you intend to research. (See “important dates” in orientation packet for exact due dates) Email paper proposals to Courtney McBeth at cmcbeth@hinckley.utah.edu (Washington

D.C. and international interns) or Amy Code at amy.code@hinckley.utah.edu (Utah State Legislature and local interns), and should follow this format.

- **Paper Proposal Format:**

1. A theme, **thesis statement, significant question or subject of study**. i.e. "I propose to examine the No Child Left Behind Law in terms of how effective it has been in achieving its goals."

2. An **outline** of the major parts of the paper. i.e. Why was the law passed? Is education a role the federal government should address or should it be left to individual states? Was the law opposed? Why and by who? Is the law working? If not, can it be reformed? Is it likely to be reformed? Conclusions

3. Bibliography - list of **sources** or references.

Bibliography

- The paper should have at least six to eight references and citations for every ten pages. Twenty plus page papers should include at least 12-16 references. Interviews are acceptable, but are not considered as one of the six to eight required references. Subjects for papers not related to the specific internship experience must receive specific approval.
- Include a signed Certificate of Authenticity form with your paper.

Due Dates:

- Check the "important dates" section of your orientation packet for due date of paper. Generally research papers are due Friday of the 8th week, following the semester of your internship. **(Paper must be submitted in hard copy. Emailed or faxed papers will not be accepted)**. If you want your grade completed by the end of the semester in which you intern, submit your paper by the last day of classes in the semester of which you are an intern.

Note: All papers will be returned and grades will be posted at the END of the semester in which you turn in your paper.

2. SUPERVISOR EVALUATION

The Hinckley Institute of Politics will email an evaluation to your supervisor at the end of the internship. Your supervisor will evaluate you on attitude, judgment, initiative, writing skills, interpersonal relations, availability/dependability, and completion of hour requirements. **Your supervisor will be asked to verify the hours you worked.**

3. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND WRITTEN SUMMARIES

Students are required to cultivate a bibliography surrounding a certain domain of scholarly writings pertaining to their internship placement and/or personal interest. The bibliography

should include 6-8 readings including academic journals, scholarly articles, books, policy papers, etc. The readings in the bibliography may also be used as references in your final research paper.

Students must submit a one page, single-spaced summary of each reading. The summary should include a brief synopsis of the reading and also an analytical critique of the reading. You may draw in other references as part of the analytical critique.

Students must submit the bibliography at mid-semester when the research paper proposal are due. The reading summaries should be turned in with the research paper (approximately 8 weeks after your internship).

4. MEETING ATTENDANCE

- Washington D.C. Interns **must attend** the *Intern Orientation*, *Opening Social* (held in the first few weeks of the semester), and the *Mid-Semester Meetings* (held mid-semester). Dates will be given at orientation.
- International Interns **must attend** the *Intern Orientation* and schedule a *Wrap-Up Meeting* once you return from your internship. Interns are required to email weekly updates to Courtney McBeth.
- Legislative Interns **must attend** all classes and meetings.
- Local and Government Offices & Campaign Interns **must attend** *Intern Orientation*, and give periodic updates on the internship. Interns are required to track worked hours on a weekly basis and hand in log at end of semester.

5. BOOK REVIEW

The text for your internship is: *Robert H. Hinckley, Getting to Know Him*. Gardner, Bae B. The HIP will provide you a copy for \$10.00. The assignment is to read the chapters titled, “Public Service in Washington, D.C.,” “Hinckley Institute of Politics,” and the timeline of Hinckley’s life and write a 2 to 4 page essay entitled, “**Now I know about Mr. Hinckley’s public service life, here is a plan for my public service life.**”

The purpose of this assignment is to understand the mission of the HIP; which is to get you thinking about a career in public service and how you might continually be active in your community and government. Be sure to relate some things you learned about Mr. Hinckley’s public life that will aid you in planning your own.

****Note**** If you serve more than one Hinckley internship, you only need to submit one book report.

6. STUDENT EVALUATION OF INTERNSHIP

Interns must fill out an evaluation of their internship experience at the end of the internship. These evaluations provide helpful feedback to the HIP for future student interns as well as your overall experience of the office in which you worked. Turn in evaluations with your research paper and book review. Evaluations forms are included in the Intern Orientation Packet.

Washington, D.C. & International:

The research paper and book review are **due at 4:00 pm** on the date noted on the “important dates” sheet in your orientation packet. Exceptions to the due date will only be made in extreme extenuating circumstances, and only with the approval of the HIP. Papers submitted within one month of the due date will be docked one letter grade. If no papers are submitted within one month from the due date a failing grade of “E” will be given.

Utah State Legislature Internship:

The research paper and book review are **due at 4:00pm** on the date noted in your intern orientation packet. Papers submitted within one month of the due date will be docked one letter grade. If no papers are submitted within one month from the due date a failing grade of “E” will be given. Following the legislative session you are required to give a 10 minute in-class oral presentation regarding the topic you selected for your research paper. The presentations extend through several days and you must be in attendance all days to receive full attendance credit. Keep in mind that there are few meetings throughout the semester and they account for 5% of your final grade.

Local Internships:

As a local intern you are required to keep track of your hours worked on the “Intern Hour Tracking sheet,” provided to you in the intern orientation packet. You must track your hours daily and total them weekly. This sheet is to be submitted along with your research paper, book review, student evaluation form, and certificate of authenticity at the completion of your internship **at 4:00pm** on the date noted in your intern orientation packet. Papers submitted within one month of the due date will be docked one letter grade. If no papers are submitted within one month from the due date a failing grade of “E” will be given. Be aware that the tracking sheet accounts for 10% of the 40% awarded to the supervisor evaluation of intern, to verify the hours worked.

In Summary

1. Do not take the papers lightly.
2. Select a topic or subject that interests you as soon as possible.
3. Email paper proposal the 8th week of the semester of your internship for approval. Follow the above format for the paper proposal.

4. Keep the HIP advised of changes in direction and of intended timetables for completion of internship assignments.
5. Be **analytical, research oriented, and explanatory** instead of being merely descriptive.
6. There should be at least six to eight references (for every 10 pages) cited in the bibliography.
7. Think in terms of the basic research format: state a purpose or hypothesis, present evidence on both sides of the question; make reasonable conclusions from your evidence, and end with a summary statement and conclusion.
8. Be aware that the quality of the paper will have a direct bearing on the overall internship grade.