The sociology internship program is designed to provide juniors and seniors with an opportunity to obtain valuable job-related experience and future employment contacts while still a student. For this directed field experience, students enroll in SOC 4370 and are assigned to an agency of their choice for a volunteer period of 150 hours. Internship opportunities are available during the fall, spring, and summer terms.

To be eligible for an internship, the student must be a Sociology or Anthropology major or minor.

Eligible students must have completed a minimum of 60 credit hours (9 of which have to be in either Sociology or Anthropology), and have a minimum 2.5 GPA.
The primary objective of the sociology program is to provide students with conceptual and analytical tools for understanding the structure and variations of social interaction in human societies. The cultivation of students’ abilities to apply what they learn to the practical resolution of social concerns in daily life, as well as the development of their theoretical knowledge and capacity for scholarly objectivity, are all goals of the sociology program.

Sociology is a useful major for students interested in continuing their education in a sociology graduate program, but also for those who plan to enter law, medicine, business, politics, research, social work, and many other fields in which it is useful to have a broad understanding of the social forces that shape human behavior. The sociology internship is designed to provide juniors and seniors an opportunity to obtain valuable job-related experience. Such placements are located in criminal justice agencies, agencies concerned with the medical field, agencies emphasizing human services, and a variety of other agencies that would be of interest to students with a general sociological background.

The student should approach the internship just as he or she would a job. The student will be required to interview with employers, which is an important part of the internship. Students should prepare for and approach this interview as they would a job interview. The student is required to bring some “classroom knowledge,” and a great deal of enthusiasm and maturity to the position. The intern must exhibit a willingness to work hard, learn rapidly, and respond to instructions. The main benefit of the internship for the student will be job experience. This experience will come, however, only if the student is alert to take advantage of the opportunities offered through the internship. Ability to observe people and processes, an inquiring and objective mind, a mature and trustworthy character, and willingness to work and learn are all necessary characteristics if the student is to receive the maximum benefit from the intern experience.

Where might you intern?
Past internship opportunities have included such locations as a mayor’s office, police and sheriff departments, hospitals, the Department of Human Services, Arkansas Educational Television Network, and numerous human services agencies.