Internships are an excellent opportunity to see psychology in action in mental health, educational and research settings. Internships may be conducted during any semester. There is a separate fee for summer internships. The department recommends at least a junior standing at the time of registration. Participation in the internship program is required. All students must have 4 credits towards an internship, which is 160 hours at an internship site.

For the internship, we expect you to work in a psychology related field under the supervision of a person with at least a master’s degree in psychology or a related discipline. Regular contact with your Westminster College internship instructor is required. A reading list developed prior to actual internship activities, a journal and a paper integrating the readings, internship experience and other college course work are required. You must be a junior to participate.

Different types of internships lead to different types of outcomes. Our students may work in a research setting, where they utilize their research and quantitative skills, or in more applied internships, where they use the information they have learned in their classes to work in human or animal settings. Regardless, by the end of the internship students will be able:

1. To communicate effectively using appropriate psychological style in written reports of research and psychology applications. (PSY 5)
2. To link core scientific principles to areas of application. (PSY 6)
3. To use both convergent and divergent thinking in solving quantitative and applied problem solving tasks. (PSY 7)
4. To practice the ethics of psychology in professional and interpersonal settings. (PSY 8)
5. To establish creative linkages between psychology and other knowledge domains. (PSY 11)
6. To recognize competencies, seek opportunities for self-improvement, and actively engage in making strategic choices regarding academic and career goals. (PSY 12)

For a research internship, students will also be able:

1. To develop skills to find, evaluate and use psychological knowledge. (PSY 2)
2. To reason scientifically, applying appropriate research design and quantitative methods. (PSY 3)
3. To use technology appropriately and responsibly. (PSY 4)

These outcomes align with the psychology/neuroscience curricular outcomes.

Office hours: For internships taking place during the semester, please contact your advisor and instructor during their office hours. If your experience is during the summer, email your instructor.

As a way to help you understand what you are doing:

- You should be consulting material on your reading list (form a list of a few articles, you have to summarize 3). Attempting to integrate academic material with the practical experiences of the job can be a source of questions which you can bring to your on-site supervisor and other staff.
• In addition, you should request suggestions as to what else you might read (I’ll add 3 for you to summarize).
• Many sites may have libraries which would permit access to materials that would otherwise be difficult to obtain.

Grading

Regular or S/U grading is available for internships. Regardless of grading type, the same course requirements apply. They are:

• **Journal**: A daily record should be kept of your on-site activities. It should include a description of how information from your college courses relates to your internship activities.
• **Article summaries**: You should pick 3 relevant articles and summarize them; I’ll provide 3 more for you to summarize.
• **On-Site Evaluation**: Your on-site supervisor is responsible for writing a brief evaluation of your performance. The evaluations are sent to Mrs. DeMedal who will send a copy to the faculty advisor and the student.
• **Paper**: A paper which integrates your practical experiences with academic psychology is required. It most likely requires relating your activities to materials on your reading list (as amended during the semester). Its exact content, length, date due etc., will be assigned by the faculty instructor. Generally it is completed after you return to campus at the beginning of the following semester.

Internship Survey

The Psychology Department monitors the quality of student internships. At the end of your internship experience, we will ask you to fill out a survey, which can be found at [http://www.psych.westminster.edu/phpESP/public/survey.php?name=Internship_Survey_Final](http://www.psych.westminster.edu/phpESP/public/survey.php?name=Internship_Survey_Final)