

Connecting with College of Engineering Faculty

Employers have the opportunity to work with faculty to infuse applied engineering into course curriculum. Internship positions could be offered through an “Internship for Credit” course or “Service Learning” course. The primary difference from the traditional internship is that each of these courses is overseen by a faculty in the College of Engineering. The course would follow the registrar’s academic calendar. Students would register for the course in a timely fashion and be charged tuition for credit hours. Faculty and Employer prepare a syllabus with learning objectives, time frames, evaluation tools, etc. for the student.

Internship for Credit Course, IDS 3940: Initially developed through Undergraduate Studies and the Career Center, this course provides a means to capture a student’s career experience onto their resume. The course is based on the traditional internship and includes general course format. The course requires a faculty member to oversee the Internship, prepare a syllabus with learning objectives and assignments. The course would be completed with support from the Employer and would follow the university’s academic calendar. The student would receive an “S” or “U” as a final grade. A student could enroll in the course for up to two semesters for a total of six credit hours. As a course, the Internship would be listed on the student’s transcript. Internship for Credit is approved through Undergraduate Studies.

Service Learning Course: Service-learning uses community/civic engagement as the primary venue for the learning (see attached power point presentation). In this course a faculty would work with the Employer to integrate the civic experience into the faculty’s course. This approach would be appropriate for a team of students or an entire class. The activities may be constrained to complete the project within the timeline of the semester course. An example would be if the Employer has a wide spread water sampling underway, teams of students would be trained in procedures to obtain the samples, collect the samples, submit the samples for analysis, review the results, and prepare a report with a map of the depth and breadth of the chemical constituents. Or a class could visit an energy resource recovery station, identify and count the waste streams that are delivered by the public, determine costs of recovering certain chemical constituents or materials, etc. The project would conclude at the semester’s end. Service Learning Courses are managed through the Office of Community Engagement (Dr. Elizabeth Strom, Director).

Independent Study Course: Student works with a faculty and employer to prepare a project that is outcome based. Independent study is more faculty driven and may be more research based, though a project could be completed through the internship.

Capstone Design/Senior Project Course: Senior level students demonstrate their understanding of engineering concepts by creating a final design project. Projects are faculty led.

Facility Tours: Employers offer facility tours to College faculty, Career Center staff, and others vested in promoting career and engineering services to our students. Employer hosts the invitees for an in-depth look at the Employer programs and technical areas. Typically the groups are divided into two sections: a technical tour (for faculty and those interested in research) and HR programs (for Career staff with discussion as to how best engage the students). Employers interested scheduling a tour may contact either the College (Eva Fernandez) or the Career Center for more details.