Course Credit for Internships

To get course credit for an internship, students must link it to a LJ199 Independent Study Program, which involves additional work beyond the internship. You request a LJ199 ISP by filling out an Independent Study Program proposal (available at the English Dept front desk) and submitting it to a Literary Journalism faculty member for approval.

LJ 199 is an independent study program in which students work approximately 10 hours a week as interns at local publications or stations, under the supervision of a Literary Journalism faculty member. Besides their work as interns, the students do supplementary reading and write reports as assigned by the instructor.

The duties of interns vary from publication to publication, but generally involve: Shadowing working reporters, assisting those reporters, observing the newsroom, sitting in on editorial meetings, and doing whatever research editors assign. Interns will also write their own stories, with the aim of getting them accepted for publication.

For LJ199, each student will also:

> Do supplementary reading in a faculty-selected anthology, such as the Best Magazine Writing annual series, which collects the winners and finalists in the National Magazine Awards competition.

> Write a five-page mid-term essay about the publication where the student is interning, or on another topic chosen by the supervising faculty member.

> Email weekly reports to the supervising faculty member about that week’s internship experience, supplemented by office visits.

> For the Final, write an extended narrative (7-10 pages) about the ten-week experience as an intern.

The students’ work as interns will be monitored by regular communication between Literary Journalism faculty and the editors at cooperating publications.