

## Anth 495 opportunities at *Waldorf School of San Diego*

### What is the WSSD Internship program?

The Waldorf School of San Diego (WSSD) serves a diverse community of students whose families favor a holistic approach to education. **Internships are available for eligible SDSU students who seek to expand their real-world experience applying anthropology while completing meaningful work in support of WSSD.**

Eligibility: Anthropology *majors* must have completed (or be set to complete, in the internship semester) the four core courses: Anth 301-304; or the equivalent. For *non-majors*, the core course requirements are waived. Non majors who identify a sponsor in their major may receive credit in their major, with permission.

Final suitability decisions are taken by WSSD. Candidates first are screened by Dr. EJ Sobo ([esobo@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:esobo@mail.sdsu.edu)), the faculty supervisor for all Anth 495 WSSD interns.

What kind of work will interns do? For every unit/credit, interns work 3 hrs/wk (**3 units = 9 hours**). For further information, see the department's universal 495 syllabus, attached. Each intern will undertake on-site *participant observation* within a distinct cultural setting, write *field notes*, and prepare an *ethnographic report* based on those notes. WSSD Internships thus meet the requirements of **Anthropology 495, Internship in Applied Anthropology**, for: "supervised field placement of students in [organizations] where concepts and principles of Anthropology can be put into practice."

To keep the content of the work meaningful, every attempt will be made to place an intern in a position that speaks to his/her personal and scholarly interests. Some examples of functions interns may fill are as follows (other options are available; the list is not exhaustive):

Admissions	Support outreach activities; help convene events for prospective families
Administration; education policy	Help collect data/information for, and help write, administrative reports; help update policy and parent manuals
Community service	Help coordinate WSSD's student internship / service learning program (in the high school); assist in coordinating WSSD's parent volunteers
Development	Help identify and respond to grant opportunities
Events	Help plan and implement large fall/spring community fairs
Gardening	Help bring the school's present organic garden and orchard to full fruition
Marketing	Assist school shop with customer needs & merchandising projects
Nutrition	Assist in managing newly developed hot lunch program
Teaching	Assist WSSD teachers during main lesson or in special subject activities

## What is Waldorf?

Founded in Europe in 1919, Waldorf (aka Steiner) Education is now the world's fastest-growing private school movement. WSSD was founded in 1981 to serve very young children; it now occupies two campuses in City Heights, and serve 285 students, from pre-school aged through 11<sup>th</sup> graders (the first 12<sup>th</sup> grade class will be welcomed next year).

The **Steiner pedagogy is designed to address the whole child**. It stimulates the mind with a full spectrum of traditional academic subjects, while nurturing healthy emotional development by conveying knowledge experientially. Students work with their bodies and hands throughout the day, both in primary academic subjects and in a broad range of artistic music and craft activities.

## How can I be part of the WSSD Internship Program?

How do I apply? **To apply**, visit the 'field opportunities' section of the anthropology department website (<http://anthropology.sdsu.edu/research.html>). Print and then complete the **two forms** posted there. Submit **two hard copies** of the total package to Dr. EJ Sobo via the anthropology office (MC 6040) or by visiting her in AL 411.

The **priority deadlines** for applications are: November 15 for Spring, May 15 for Fall, and April 15 for Summer. Later applications will be considered, as space allows.

Once your application has been vetted, Dr. Sobo will put you in contact with a selected potential on-site supervisor. *Placement requires the explicit approval of WSSD*. With approval, the [495 form](#) (click to access) should be completed and submitted.

What will I do and how will I be assessed? Core internship activities are arranged between the intern and his/her direct, on-site supervisor. You can expect to put in 3 hours of work for every credit/unit (i.e., **9 hr/wk** for 3 units). **In week one, you will undertake reading regarding ethnographic writing.**<sup>1</sup> **In weeks 2-14 you will be on-site. In weeks 15-16 you will write your report.** The final report will be due on a date to be agreed upon between the intern and Dr Sobo during the final exam period, and while the standard format is a written 10-15 page paper, with an abstract or executive summary on page 1, a presentation also might be arranged, with permission. Your **grade** will be based on the report and on your WSSD supervisor's evaluation of your on-site efforts. *Note that this plan may be modified with Dr. Sobo's permission, if specific learning needs (e.g., for non-majors) require it.*

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<sup>1</sup> Prior to week 1 of the internship, please **read *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes***, by Emerson, Fretz, & Shaw; (University Of Chicago Press, 1995). Your week one hours will be spent discussing and digesting the text, a straightforward 'how to' book. The text is widely available for about \$5-10 used and \$12-18 new.

# **Anthropology 495**

## ***Internship in Applied Anthropology***

### **Departmental Syllabus**

Anthropology 495 involves supervised field placement of students in campus or community organizations, museums, schools, cultural resource management firms, social service and development agencies, zoological parks, forensic laboratories, business firms, and other institutions where concepts and principles of anthropology can be put to practice.

Anthropology 495 is a Credit/No Credit course. It may be taken for 1-3 credit units, and repeated up to 3 credit units. Anthropology 495 fulfills a methods requirement for the Anthropology major and minor.

#### **Prerequisites**

Completion of or concurrent enrollment in the four core courses for the major: Anth 301, Anth 302, Anth 303, and Anth 304.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

- Experience the application of anthropology in a work environment outside of the classroom
- Learn methods of the application of anthropology in a work setting
- Analyze the work situation as an instance of applied anthropology
- Reflect on the experience of the internship in the context of your learning of anthropology at SDSU

#### **Course Requirements**

##### **Obtaining an internship**

Students wishing to take Anthropology 495 need to find an appropriate internship and an Anthropology Department faculty member who is willing to give them academic supervision. The Anthropology Department maintains a list of some organizations that are potentially interested in offering internships, but does not arrange internships for students. It is the responsibility of the student to contact an organization, arrange the internship, and identify their on-site supervisor. The student also contacts a

member of the Anthropology Department faculty who is interested in serving as departmental supervisor of the internship. The faculty member does not supervise the on-site activities of the student. Faculty members are not required to accept student proposals for internships.

The student prepares the Anthropology 495 form, which includes the name of the organization, a description of the internship activities and the analytical report, the number of hours worked per week, and the number of credit units. The form is signed by the on-site supervisor from the organization, the Departmental faculty supervisor and the undergraduate adviser before the student can receive a schedule number to register for the course.

### **Completing work at the organization**

The student completes the work of the internship under the supervision of the on-site supervisor. The student should report to their faculty supervisor on their activities from time to time during the semester. Students should report any problems with their internship to their faculty supervisor immediately.

The University calculates that a student should work three hours a week per credit unit. Since the course can be taken for 1-3 units, students are expected to work between three and nine hours a week throughout the semester, depending on the number of units they earn.

### **Analytical Report**

The student will prepare a report of their internship activities for their faculty supervisor. The format and contents of the report will be decided by the student and the supervising faculty member. The report will generally contain the following elements:

- description of the activities undertaken
- discussion of the methods used in the internship
- analysis of how what was learned during the internship relates to the application of anthropology
- evaluation of the internship as an educational experience in anthropology.

The faculty supervisor may decide on a different format that better suits the content of the internship.

### **Grading**

The student will receive credit for the course by completing the internship activities at the selected organization and completion of an analytical report to the satisfaction of the faculty supervisor.