Tailor Your SRM Knowledge
With Self-Initiated
Field Experience
SRM: 4197:0006
Spring, Summer or Fall Terms

The self-initiated field experience is an agreement between the student and a sport, recreation or leisure focused organization of the student’s choice. The Office of Field Experience assists students in identifying opportunities but it is ultimately the student’s responsibility to make contact and arrangements directly with the partnering organization.

Earn one to nine credits during each field experience engagement. The number of semester hour credits are based on the number of field hours spend with the organization. 1 sh = 45 field hours.

Gain experience tailored to your own career path by working with a collegiate, private, commercial or non-profit organization.

Examples of organizations that University of Iowa SRM students have worked with in the past:

Iowa Athletics    Lollapalooza     Iowa City Parks and Rec    NASCAR
Cedar Rapids Kernels    Iowa Wild    Chicago Fire Soccer Club    Indiana Pacers
Parks and Recreation departments around the country and in students’ home towns.

First Step:
The student must meet with the SRM field experience coordinator prior to registration to ensure the organization and anticipated experience meet all necessary requirements.

Credits:
During the above mentioned meeting, the student and coordinator with determine the number of credit hours attempted based on the anticipated number of work hours over the semester.

Registration:
Students register for field experience credit during normal class registration windows.

Questions? See Anna Jensen, Director, Office of Field Experience.
anna-jensen@uiowa.edu, Fieldhouse 346, 319-335-8455 (office)
For more information on all field experience opportunities: http://bit.ly/srm-experience
Schedule:
Field Experience hours must be declared and registered before credit can be granted. For example, the course work must be registered and completed alongside the field experience. Registration for the course credit follows the traditional course drop/add dates.

FAQ’s:

Q: What are the student’s responsibilities?
A: The student must complete paperwork including:

- identifying opportunity / internship opening
- experience goal setting & learning outcomes
- explanation of field experience opportunities
- field experience / work evaluations
- periodic meetings with the UI field experience coordinator
- weekly journal entries while completing the experience
- a final report & self-evaluation

Q: How do I know how many credits to register for?
A: That depends on the number of field experience hours you’ll be working.

45 field experience hours = 1 semester hour of credit.
A student working 45 hours with a team, league office or agency would earn 1 semester hour of field experience credit. 405 hours are required to earn 9 s.h.

Q: Can I get paid during my Practicum experience?
A: Yes, the University of Iowa does allow the student to get paid a stipend or an hourly wage. It is important to remember, however, that it is common for internship experiences to be unpaid.

Q: Can I still get credit for something I’m doing right now?
A: Depends on when you are reading this…If the semester registration deadline has already passed, you cannot retroactively register for credits. You can register for credit in the following semester, provided the experience is also ongoing and you have not already earned credit for experience with the same organization.

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