

AnSci/F&W 4940
Captive Wild Animal Management Internship
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA
Guidelines

Description:

Animal Sciences/Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences 4940, Captive Wild Animal Management Internship. Supervised professional experience with an approved public or private organization. Off-Campus training to develop technical skills and understanding of an area of captive wild animal management. Written reports and an oral presentation required.

Prerequisites:

Instructor's consent

Objectives:

1. Provide educational experiences, which are directly related to curricula and student's goals.
2. Develop student awareness of employment demands, responsibilities and opportunities.
3. Provide potential career experience with an opportunity for continuing formal education.
4. Provide an opportunity for the student to apply principles and techniques learned in the classroom to problem solving situations in order to gain a better understanding of the decision-making and implementing process.

Credit and Grading:

A total of 12 maximum credit hours may be applied toward a B.S. degree. A total of 50 contact hours is required per credit hour enrolled. Three credit hours of internship are required for the Captive Wild Animal Management Minor; thus, a total of 150 contact hours. Students are not required to fulfill all three hours at one location; however, if credit hours are to be completed at multiple locations, separate applications will be required.

Applications will be reviewed by the Faculty Advisory Committee for Captive Wild Animal Management (consisting of faculty from Animal Sciences and Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences), and approval must be granted prior to the start of the internship for credit to be received. Students will be evaluated by the internship supervisor (employer), the internship coordinator (faculty member responsible for course), and other individuals who may have been involved with the experience (staff members on location, other faculty members, etc.). Grading of the student intern is the responsibility of the internship coordinator, after an assessment of evaluations and work completed. The internship is graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis, and after completion of all components of the internship including the oral presentation.

Procedure:

1. Students file an application with the internship coordinator. The application must include **two letters of recommendation**, with at least one from a faculty member at the University of Missouri, a **transcript** (unofficial is acceptable), and a **resume**.

As part of the application, students must demonstrate that they have secured an internship and have discussed with the internship supervisor the internship proposal including a plan of action, timetable, work schedule, and financial arrangements. The internship supervisor must sign (or e-mail from their personal account) the internship placement contract confirming the student's acceptance and the number of contact hours the student will receive.

2. The program coordinator reviews the application with the Faculty Advisory Committee for the Captive Wild Animal Management minor.
3. Upon approval, a meeting between the student and internship coordinator is required to finalize the details of the internship. This meeting may also include members of the advisory committee and the internship supervisor (employer).
4. A weekly written report must be provided to the internship coordinator stating what was learned during that period. These may be submitted electronically, and must be typed.
5. At the end of the internship period, an evaluation of the internship experience and the intern's performance is submitted by the intern and the internship supervisor. Other faculty or staff members may participate in the evaluation if they visited the student on the site of the internship or were otherwise involved. Evaluation by all parties will include what they liked most and least about the program, what were the most valuable learning experiences, any complaints and/or problems, and suggestions for improvement of the program. The intern and the internship coordinator will then arrange a time to meet to review the evaluations and discuss the experience.
6. A final oral presentation (PowerPoint required) is given to a group approved by the internship coordinator. The audience may include a mix of students, faculty members, internship supervisors, etc. The internship coordinator will review the slides at least one week prior to the presentation date.

For more information or to receive an application, contact Dr. Trista Strauch:

e-mail: straucht@missouri.edu

telephone: (573) 884-8464

fax: (573) 884-5070

Mailing Address: 302 ABNR, Columbia, MO 65211

Applications, evaluations, placement contracts, letters of recommendation, etc. should be sent directly to Dr. Trista Strauch.