



Department of Sociology

XAVIER UNIVERSITY *of* LOUISIANA

SOCIOLOGY INTERNSHIPS

Engaging New Orleans as a Living Laboratory

Xavier students benefit from the dynamic, “living laboratory” New Orleans offers. Internships that place students throughout New Orleans are integral to students’ academic and professional development. These experiences are instrumental for:

- Defining post-Xavier career and graduate school plans
- Learning how to behave and to interact effectively in a professional setting
- Networking with professionals in students’ areas of interest
- Applying sociological knowledge to its “real world” implementation
- Gaining experience identifying and seeking a desirable professional position.
- Translating the skills and knowledge of a sociology major to professional contexts.

All sociology majors complete at least one internship as part of their Senior Capstone Internship course (SOCL 4950). Many sociology majors complete additional internships not for course credit, but to gain valuable experience and insight into potential careers.

Students seeking internships should speak to their adviser and take advantage of Xavier’s free Career Services: <https://www.xula.edu/career-services>

Sample Internship Placements

The following are a list of agencies and organizations at which sociology majors interned in recent years:

ACCESS Pregnancy

Alliance Institute of New Orleans

Bridge House/Grace House Rehabilitation

Broadmoor Improvement Association

CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children

Catholic Charities

Community Commitment Education Center

Cowen Institute

FitNola

Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center

HBCU Behavioral Health Grant Internship Program in Substance Abuse Awareness

Juvenile Regional Services/LA Center for Children's Rights

Laurel Elementary School (social work office)

Louisiana Bucket Brigade

Louisiana State University School of Medicine

New Orleans City Council

New Orleans Neighborhood Partnership Network – Parents First Campaign

New Orleans Civil District Court

New Orleans Police Department

Ochsner Therapy/Rehabilitation Services

Restaurant Opportunities Centers United

Operation Hope

Sankofa Community Development Corporation

The Innocence Project

The New Orleans Health Department

Voyage House

Warren Easton High School (counseling center)

Xavier University Counseling and Wellness Center

Youth Empowerment Project

SOCI 4950 Sociology Internship

The Capstone Internship course offers an opportunity to apply what they have learned by combining a student internship with class sessions that guide students through the process of creating a research proposal based on the work they are doing at their internship site. Additionally, this class will prepare students for life after graduation with workshops covering academic and professional pursuits, interpersonal relationships, financial literacy, and other relevant topics related to the transition from college student to college graduate.

This formal internship course offers students a better sociological understanding of a particular field through sustained engagement in an applied setting (e.g., substance abuse, health care, law enforcement, family services). Unlike simply completing an internship, volunteering, or a job, the internship course allows students to combine practical field experience with the theoretical approaches they learn in the classroom.

Each internship is different, but students enrolling in SOCI 4950 should be prepared for several common requirements:

Requirements for Enrolling in SOCI 4950

- Senior status or completion of almost all sociology coursework;
- following policies outlined in **Guidelines and Policies Governing Sociology Internships**.
- resume and portfolio;
- completed plans before the start of the semester during which they intend to enroll
- maintaining the highest professional standards in completing the internship (punctuality, reliability, confidentiality, communication, professional behavior and attire)
- a minimum of 110 hours at the internship site. This may include specific training to complete the internship. Work and class schedules must be adjusted accordingly.
- maintaining a log of hours and activity
- arranging for formal evaluation by an on-site supervisor at the conclusion of the internship
- a final paper or project, as defined in your SOCI 4950 course syllabus.