

Angelica Codner

Professor Mark Jennings

Field Instruction and Seminar

Journal #6

March 20, 2023

An internship is essential and should be included in the social work curriculum. An internship will allow you to put materials/lessons you have learned in the past and from present courses into practice. I have learned stuff in my internship that I didn't learn in some of my courses. Also, I love the idea of a junior and a senior internship while connecting the classes to intertwine with the internship. For example, Integrated Seminar. This course has helped me apply the knowledge and competencies I've learned in my past courses to my field experience. It is preparing me to be an effective and efficient social worker in my practice.

As a junior, I volunteer at Mount Lamp Camp as a mentor. I was facilitating a group of at-risk kids aged 9-12 on how to cook essential dishes while discussing some of the challenges they face in their community. This opportunity has built my confidence, enlightened my passion for the youth, and clarified the population I would like to work with. Also, it allowed me to step out of my comfort zone by incorporating a group implementing recreational therapy.

As a senior completing their social work internship at Kidspace, I better understand what it will be as a social worker within the mental health community working with the adolescent population. This experience has given me much-needed confidence in knowing when to apply the necessary social skills, what intervention and methods to utilize, learning the importance of the non-verbal as much as the verbal, and being self-aware of my reactions.

Internships forces you to put what you have learned into practice and challenge you to unlearn behaviors that are not ethical and professional for this job. With internship included in the social work curriculum, it will be pretty straightforward, and there will be a more effective practice in the social work profession.