Directed Studies, POL 3990/5990: Internship
“The Wall Speaks Project”
(“The Wall Speaks Project” is an interactive multimedia exhibition and accompanying events such as art shows, music events, lectures, and community meetings)
Spring 2017
1-3 Credits
Instructor: Alina Klin (a.klin@wayne.edu)

Syllabus

This unique Internship in Polish Studies allows students to apply the knowledge they have acquired through the major or minor program and to gain practical experience in their scholarly and professional areas of interest. An internship can also allow students to explore possible areas in which they would like to pursue a career.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:
• gain practical experience in their area of specialization while applying the knowledge they acquired in the Slavic BA/Polish concentration or minor program.
• make connections between what they know about Poland and the work being carried out in conjunction with “The Wall Speaks Project,” an interactive multimedia exhibition;
• explore in-depth issues relevant to Polish Studies from the perspective of a collaboration with an internationally renowned artist, and in the context of Hamtramck, a vibrant, multiethnic community;
• gain hands-on experience with logistics, PR, community outreach and other issues connected with organizing and executing an art show.

The internship entails the following:
• In consultation with a faculty adviser in Polish, the student will work with “The Wall Speaks Project.”
  • The two-month project consists of an interactive multimedia exhibition and accompanying events such as art shows, music events, lectures, and community meetings. The project will seek to build bridges between past and present, and between various communities in Hamtramck, Michigan by bridging experiences of Polish children and teenagers of World War II with those of children and teenagers in the war torn Middle East today.
  • The students will assist in the initial stages of prep, P.R., and also will serve as docents guiding viewers through the exhibition.
  • Students will be able to choose which areas of work they want to spend most time on: exhibition prep, community outreach, docent duty, public relations and communication.
  • Students will work a minimum of three to ten hours a week depending on whether they choose a one, two or a three-credit course.¹
• Student must submit the “Internship Information Form” to the faculty adviser before the internship starts.
• No more than 15% of internship time should be spent on regular clerical duties such as filing, copying and regular receptionist duties.
• Students must maintain a weekly journal for the entire duration of their internship. Students will turn in journals every two weeks electronically to the faculty adviser.
• Students taking the internship for 3 CR will write a final research paper about their experience, consisting of 8-10 pages, to be turned in to the faculty advisor at the end of the semester.
• The student must make sure that the organization contact person turns in the “Evaluation of Intern Performance.”

¹ A three-credit course translates into three hours of class time and a minimum of two hours per credit hour of work outside of class. This comes to nine hours minimum to achieve a passing grade in a three-credit course. Students doing an internship of ten hours per week plus journal work and research paper are doing the equivalent of what is expected in a three-credit course.
**In the case of students who do not maintain the terms of the internship, their internship will be terminated**

Journals
- Maintain a detailed record of your daily activities. Date each individual entry.
- Journal entries should be at least 2 pages per week.
- Students should include at the beginning of their journal a description of the project: what is the aim of the project? what is the purpose? how does it carry out its purpose? You can include information from the organization’s website or pamphlets.
- Students should explain their role and what they will be doing through the internship, and how they believe it will contribute to their professional development.
- As students become more familiar with the environment, they can include such things as: what is the most/least fulfilling aspect of the job? what kinds of problems were encountered? what was managed particularly well or poorly? how are tasks delegated? how does the project engage communities in reaching out and crossing bridges, how does it promote multicultural understanding? How does it use history, language and culture to promote dialogue among various communities? is the organization effective in reaching its goals? How does the project use the Polish historical and cultural idiom to lay a foundation for universal understanding? How can art serve social issues? In what ways does art require collaborative and organizational skills, and not just creative ones?
- The journal should not simply be a list of what you did each day, but rather, it should serve as a means to evaluate your experience with “The Wall Speaks Project.” For instance, students can focus on particular cases, experiences, and encounters, and develop descriptive accounts and analyses of them.

Research Paper
- If you are taking the course for 3 CR, you are required to write a research paper. The research paper will be 8-10 pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins.
- Students can draw from their internship experience, but they must also include at least 5 secondary references (scholarly articles or books) on the organization itself or on issues related to Polish Studies that are relevant to the organization or agency.
- Students will provide the faculty advisor with a short 1-paragraph description, outline, and bibliography for the project by the end of April.

Grade:
1. If taken for one credit:
   - Journal entries: 80%
     - Students will turn in journals every two weeks for eight weeks. Each set of journals will be worth 20% of your total grade.
     - Students will spend 30-40 hours total (3-4 hours per week) working with “The Wall Speaks”
   - Evaluation of performance by Organization Contact Person: 20%

2. If taken for two credits:
   - Journal entries: 80%
     - Students will turn in journals every two weeks for eight weeks. Each set of journals will be worth 20% of your total grade.
     - Students will spend 50-60 hours total (5-6 hours per week) working with “The Wall Speaks”
   - Evaluation of performance by Organization Contact Person: 20%

3. If taken for three credits:
   - Journal entries: 45%
     - Students will turn in journals every two weeks for eight weeks. Each set of journals will be worth 15% of your total grade
     - Students will spend 80-90 hours total (8-9 hours per week) working with “The Wall Speaks”
- Evaluation of performance by Organization Contact Person: 15%
- Final Research Paper: 40%

**Grading Scheme**

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<th>Grade</th>
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