***Spring 2010***

**COUN 7920**

**Internship in School Psychology**

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**Department of**

**Special Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling/School Psychology**

**College of Education**

Instructor Information:

**Joseph A. Buckhalt, Ph.D., NCSP**

**Haley Center 2010/2012**

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Office Hours:

**Tues: by appointment**

**Other Days: TBA**



**Auburn University**

**Syllabus**

1. **Course Number:** COUN 8920

**Course Title**: Internship in School Psychology  
**Credit Hours**: variable  
**Prerequisites:** Completion of all program courses and practica  
**Corequisites:** None

**Instructor**: Joseph A. Buckhalt, Ph.D., NCSP

2084 Haley Center

844-2875 [buckhja@auburn.edu](mailto:buckhja@auburn.edu)

2. **Date Syllabus Prepared**: January 2009 Spring semester

3. **Text:** Students should obtain a copy of the Special Education Policy manual for the state and

local district where the internship is completed. For Alabama, materials may be obtained

from:

Division of Special Education Support Services

Training Support Section

P.O. Box 302101

Montgomery, AL 36130-2101

334-242-8114

[www.alsde.edu](http://www.alsde.edu)

Students should also refer to the School Psychology Program Handbook for additional information about the internship.

1. **Course Description**:

Supervised, on-the-job experiences in a school setting for students at the specialist and doctoral level.

1. **Course Objectives**:

The internship in school psychology is taken after the completion of all coursework in the program, including all practica. It consists of a closely supervised experience in a school setting performing all of the duties of a school psychologist. The student will be supervised by a school system employee who has a specialist or doctoral degree in school psychology and three years of experience. The specific activities will vary somewhat depending on the needs and practices of the particular school system, but activities will typically include the following:

a. Orientation to the school psychological services unit;

b. Orientation to special education services;

c. Orientation to regular education programs and facilities;

d. Psychoeducational assessment and diagnosis of referred students;

e.Preparation of reports based on assessment findings;

f. Classroom observation;

g. Completing forms related to school psychological services and special education;

h. Receiving supervision;

i. Supervision of master’s level psychometrists or master’s level interns;

j. Attending meetings with parents and school professionals;

k. Consultation with parents, teachers, and other school personnel;

l. Design and implementation of intervention activities, including individual or group counseling, remedial educational tutoring, prevention program involvement, or other activities.

**6. Course Content:**

Instruction/supervision is individualized based upon the approved plan of internship.

**7. Course Requirements**:

a. The College of Education Office of Teacher Education, Haley Center 3464 makes all internship placements for the College. The semester before the semester during which the internship is to be begun, an application form must be completed in that office. The student should consult with their major professor or with the coordinator for field placements in school psychology before submitting the form. The student should not make official contact with a school system before such consultation takes place.

b. At the beginning of the internship semester, a list of specific objectives for the internship experience must be developed by the student with the advice and assistance of the university internship supervisor and/or the major professor. The objectives will be discussed with the on-site supervisor in the first meeting, and amended as necessary.

c. The clock hour requirement for the internship is 1200 hours. The accumulation of hours per week may be negotiated with the internship site.

d. The intern will keep a daily log of activities that will be checked by supervisors for completion of objectives and clock hour requirements.

e.At least one on-site visit by the university supervisor will be scheduled during the internship. At this meeting, the intern, university supervisor, and on-site supervisor will review the intern’s job performance, discuss the degree of accomplishment of objectives, and reach agreement about any modification of initial plans.

f. Regular supervisory meetings between the intern and the on-site supervisor must be scheduled. A minimum of two hours per week of supervision must be provided.

g. The intern and/or the on-site supervisor must notify the university supervisor in the event of any problem arising in connection with the intern’s work.

**8. Grading and Evaluation Procedures**:

At the end of the internship period, the on-site supervisor will complete an evaluation form and submit

it to the university supervisor. The student will also complete self-assessment form and submit it to

the on-site and university supervisor. The student should give copies of the forms to the on-site

supervisor at the beginning of the practicum. The evaluation forms used will be the Alabama PEPE

Self assessment and supervisor review forms.

In addition, University faculty supervisors work with on-site supervisors and interns throughout the internship period to (a) establish appropriate internship agreements; (b) provide consultation and supervision for interns and site supervisors; (c) provide periodic on-campus group supervision for interns; (d) assign grades for interns; and when appropriate, recommend interns for certification licensure, and/or employment.

The activity log will be compared with the initial (and if relevant, amended) objectives at the end of the internship period. This review, along with the onsite supervisor’s evaluation, all observations made during the internship, and the intern’s own evaluation of the experience, will constitute the basis for the final grade. Internship is graded Satisfactory (S), Unsatisfactory (U), or Incomplete (IN). A grade of Incomplete is assigned when the objectives or clock hours of the internship are not met through no fault of the intern.

**9. Class Policy Statements:**

a. Students are expected to attend all supervision sessions and class meetings, as well as attend work at their internship site. (See *Tiger Cub* for attendance policies). Students who are absent for any reason should notify the supervisor as soon as possible.

b. Students who need special accommodations due to disability should notify the supervisors at the beginning of the internship and make contact with Program for Students with disabilities, 1244 Haley Center, phone 334-844-5943.

c. Refer to the School Psychology Program Handbook for further policies.

Revised 1-06-2008