

## **BIO 195T: TEACHING INTERNSHIP**

### **COURSE INFORMATION:**

**Instructor:** Dr. Kelly McDonald  
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**Office Hours:** Mon. 1:00pm-2:30pm  
Wed. 10:30am-12:00pm  
**Held in Squ 339**

### **Course Description:**

Bio 195T is an opportunity for biology (and related) majors and minors interested in pursuing a career in science teaching to get field experience in a middle or high school classroom. It is an elective, stand-alone field experience that is not embedded or linked to another course. As a result, students will apply knowledge accumulated throughout their degree programs to aid them in this internship.

Students will be placed in the classroom of a partnering school under the supervision of an experienced science teacher. Students will receive 1 unit of upper division credit for 40 hours of work in the classroom. A few additional hours may be needed for classroom preparation, reflective journaling, and meeting with the supervising teacher (at the placement school) and the Bio 195T course coordinator (in the Department of Biological Sciences).

### **Expected Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Through this course, you will gain authentic experience in a middle or high school science classroom, which will help inform your career decision and/or better prepare you to pursue teaching as a career.
- Through interview, journal and/or essay, you will describe your experiences in a middle or high school science classroom, highlighting a) knowledge and skills (scientific, personal and/or professional) gained, 2) attitudes developed or changed by the experience, and 3) goals accomplished or identified during the experience.

### **Prerequisites:**

There are no prerequisites for the 195T internship, but it is recommended that you complete at least some of your core biology, chemistry and physics courses before participating in this experience. This will make it easier for you to assist in a variety of middle school and high school classrooms.

### **Pre-Internship Requirements (Things to do before starting your fieldwork!):**

- Complete the Bio195T paperwork, with signatures from the supervising teaching at the placement site and the Bio195T coordinator.
- Complete an orientation at your placement site (the school in which you will be working). This may be a formal orientation or an informal meeting with your mentoring teacher or office staff.

- You may need to have a TB test (this is free through the CSUS Wellness Center) and get fingerprinted before starting your fieldwork. Each school site has its own requirements, so this will be communicated to you when you are assigned to your school.

### **Course Requirements:**

- Perform 40 hours of work in the classroom for 1 unit of credit. **Note:** The CSUS Teacher Credential Program requires 45 hours of fieldwork, so you will meet this requirement with only a few additional hours.
- Recommended: Keep a journal recording your observations, challenges, ideas, etc. I recommend writing at least one entry per week.
- Meet with the 195T coordinator at least two times during the semester to discuss your progress. This can be during office hours or by appointment.
- Complete a reflective essay (minimum of 3 pages) from a prompt provided to you at the end of the semester.

### **Grading Policy:**

You will be evaluated based on your ability to successfully complete the course requirements. This course is graded as credit/no credit. Note that a maximum of 2 units of 195T (or any 190 course) can count toward upper division units. Please contact me immediately if you are having problems at your placement site, so that your grade and experience is not impacted. Furthermore, we want this to be a wonderful experience for you, the teacher you are assisting and the students with which you are working.