

## What is the WSSD Internship program?

The Waldorf School of San Diego (WSSD) serves a diverse community of students whose families favor a holistic approach to education. **Internships are available for eligible SDSU students who seek to expand their real-world experience applying anthropology while completing meaningful work in support of WSSD.**

Eligibility: Anthropology *majors* must have completed (or be set to complete, in the internship semester) the four core courses: Anth 301-304; or the equivalent. For *non-majors*, the core course requirements are waived. Non majors who identify a sponsor in their major may receive credit in their major, with permission.

Final suitability decisions are taken by WSSD. Candidates first are screened by Dr. EJ Sobo ([esobo@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:esobo@mail.sdsu.edu)), the faculty supervisor for all Anth 495 WSSD interns.

What kind of work will interns do? For every unit/credit, interns work 3 hrs/wk (**3 units = 9 hours**). For further information, see the department's universal 495 syllabus, attached. Each intern will undertake on-site *participant observation* within a distinct cultural setting, write *field notes*, and prepare a final report. WSSD Internships thus meet the requirements of **Anthropology 495, Internship in Applied Anthropology**, for: "supervised field placement of students in [organizations] where concepts and principles of Anthropology can be put into practice."

To keep the content of the work meaningful, every attempt will be made to place an intern in a position that speaks to his/her personal and scholarly interests. Some examples of functions interns may fill are as follows (other options are available; the list is not exhaustive):

Admissions	Support outreach activities; help convene events for prospective families
Administration; education policy	Help collect data/information for, and help write, administrative reports; help update policy and parent manuals
Community service	Help coordinate WSSD's student internship and service learning program (in the high school); assist in coordinating WSSD's parent volunteers
Development	Help identify and respond to grant opportunities; assist with yearly 'gala'
Gardening	Help bring the school's organic garden and orchard to full fruition
Marketing	Assist school shop with customer needs & merchandising projects
Teaching	Assist WSSD teachers during main lesson or in special subject activities

Weekly field note topics are set in advance and in relation to our textbook (see Blackboard). The topic for the final report, however, is negotiable. Most students report on lessons learned in regard to note making. If you undertake a circumscribed project for WSSD that entails reporting of some kind, and your confidentiality agreement with the school allows it, the report done for WSSD can stand in for a personal report.

## What is Waldorf?

Founded in Europe in 1919, Waldorf (aka Steiner) Education is now the world's fastest-growing private school movement. WSSD was founded in 1981 to serve very young children; it now occupies two campuses in City Heights, and serve approximately 300 students, from pre-school aged through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

The **Steiner pedagogy is designed to address the whole child**. It stimulates the mind with a full spectrum of traditional academic subjects, while nurturing healthy emotional development by conveying knowledge experientially. Students work with their bodies and hands throughout the day, both in primary academic subjects and in a broad range of artistic music and craft activities.

## How can I be part of the WSSD Internship Program?

How do I apply? **To apply**, visit the 'field opportunities' section of the anthropology department website (<http://anthropology.sdsu.edu/research.html>). Print and then complete the **two forms** posted there. Submit **two hard copies** of the total package to Dr. EJ Sobo via the anthropology office (MC 6040) or by visiting her in AL 411.

The **priority deadlines** for applications are: November 15 for Spring, May 15 for Fall, and April 15 for Summer. Later applications will be considered, as space allows.

Once your application has been vetted, Dr. Sobo will put you in contact with a selected potential on-site supervisor. *Placement requires the explicit approval of WSSD*. With approval, the [495 form](#) (click to access) should be completed and submitted.

What will I do and how will I be assessed? Core internship activities are arranged between the intern and his/her direct, on-site supervisor. You can expect to put in 3 hours of work for every credit/unit (i.e., **9 hr/wk** for 3 units). **In weeks 1-2, you will undertake reading regarding ethnographic writing.<sup>1</sup> From the start of week 3, you will be on-site for 8 hours. You will spend 1 hour writing up a field note. In the final 2 weeks of the semester, you will write your report.** The final report will be due on a date to be agreed upon between the intern and Dr Sobo during the final exam period, and while the standard format is a written 10-15 page paper, with an abstract or executive summary on page 1, a presentation also might be arranged, with permission. Your **grade** will be based on the report and on your WSSD supervisor's evaluation of your on-site efforts. *Note that this plan may be modified with Dr. Sobo's permission, if specific learning needs (e.g., for non-majors) require it.*

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<sup>1</sup> Prior to week 1 of the internship, please **read *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes***, by Emerson, Fretz, & Shaw; (University Of Chicago Press, 1995). Your week one hours will be spent discussing and digesting the text, a straightforward 'how to' book. The text is widely available for about \$5-10 used and \$12-18 new.