

**Course Syllabus**  
**WASH 3400- The Washington Seminar**  
**Fall 2009**

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*The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

**Course Description:**

This course is a multidisciplinary introduction to politics, policy, government, business, journalism and other topics as they relate to the internship and other academic offerings of the Washington Semester Program.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Through active participation in WASH 3400, students are expected to:

1. Gain a broad understanding of issues related to public policy, politics, government, history, journalism, business and other relevant disciplines.
2. Learn about various aspects of Washington, DC art and culture.
3. Understand the linkages between class topics and their internship experiences.
4. Write a summative paper and develop a short presentation which discuss and reflect upon their personal experiences in the Washington Semester Program.

**Course Topic Outline:**

*A schedule with speakers names, meeting times and locations will supplement this syllabus.*

September 3-4	Washington DC Orientation and Syllabus Review
September 9	Tapping into the UGA Network: Making the Most of your Semester in DC
September 16	UGA in Washington: Pursuing UGA's Goals in Our Nation's Capital
September 22	Chiefs of Staff Panel Discussion
September 23	Deficits, Debt and Balancing the Federal Budget
September 25	National Press Club Event Hosted by University of Missouri (Optional)
October 1	Corporate Lobbying Panel Discussion
October 6	The First Amendment on Campus
October 13	Dinner Seminar Hosted by the Dunbar Family- Topic TBA
October 18	Understanding the Supreme Court of the United States
November 3	Product Safety and the Role of the Government
November 10	Dinner Seminar Hosted by M. Elaine Bunn- Topic TBA
November 17	U.S. China Trade and Economic Relations
November 20	Intelligence Seminar and Exercise
December 3	Phillips Collection
December 9	Finding a Job in DC
December 16	Student Presentations

**Course Requirements:**

1. Students must attend each class and actively participate.
2. Students must complete all assignments by the designated due dates.
3. Students must abide by the attendance policy.

**Weekly Assignments:**

Students must regularly check the course E-Learning Commons (<http://elc.uga.edu>) page as it will contain course updates and assignments.

By Monday at 8:00 am of each week, students must submit a one-page reflection paper/journal entry discussing the previous week including reactions to their work activities, the seminar topic and speaker and also any other highlights/issues from the previous week. You will receive feedback on each weekly submission. At the end of the term, the collection of papers will be a brief journal that recaps each student's experiences.

**All weekly papers will be submitted electronically via E-Learning Commons and are due by 8:00 a.m. on each Monday. The paper must be posted to the corresponding assignment in the Assignments section. It cannot be read by other students.**

A variety of course and program-related information is posted on E-Learning Commons, please explore the site and utilize this information.

**Final Project:**

Students must submit a 5-7 page paper discussing their experience as a part of the Washington Semester Program and how it has impacted them personally, academically and professionally. Students must include a minimum of 5 photographs with the paper- submitted separately in the highest resolution possible. The paper and photographs must be submitted by 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 14, 2009. At the final class meeting on December 16, 2009, each student will deliver a brief (5 minute) presentation outlining the material discussed in the paper.

**Grading Policy:**

This course is graded Satisfactory (S)/ Unsatisfactory (U). Students who complete all assignments, abide by the attendance policy and actively participate in the seminar will receive a satisfactory grade. Students who fail to meet one or more of the course requirements will receive an unsatisfactory grade.

**Conduct:**

Students are expected to conduct themselves during class in a professional manner that is conducive to learning. As we have many guest speakers and meet in a variety of locations, you must arrive on-time for class. All cell phones and other electronic devices should be shut off during class.

**Attendance Policy:**

Students must attend all classes, unless an absence is due to illness. Students must notify the Program Assistant and Instructor if they will be absent.

**Academic Honesty:**

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

*Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.*