



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
ACADEMIC INITIATIVES

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Gary Dymski, Director

UCCS PUBLIC-AFFAIRS JOURNALISM SUMMER SESSION 2009

The University of California Center Sacramento (UCCS) academic internship program immerses UC Scholar Interns as reporters in the world of California government and politics, helps them develop the skills and techniques necessary to write insightful and provocative stories, and provides opportunities to publish their work. **Dates: June 22, 2009 – September 4, 2009.**

UCCS ACADEMIC PROGRAM

“Boot Camp”: Students enroll in a Political Journalism Seminar, taught by UCCS faculty and guest instructors/lecturers. During the first two weeks, students take intensive classes in journalism and California state politics, with emphasis on journalistic ethics, political research, source development and use, interview techniques, resource gathering, data analysis, reporting, writing, and modern legislative history, including the cultural and political environment of the State Capitol. Students should expect to spend at least six hours each day in lectures, discussion groups and writing and reporting exercises.

Committee of Concerned Journalists: During Boot Camp, students participate in a special two-day training session conducted by the Committee of Concerned Journalists of Washington, D.C. This renowned program, usually offered to working journalists at established newspapers, will focus on accuracy, bias, verification, and “conscience and communication” within a newsroom. The UCCS-CCJ collaboration is unique among training workshops, for participants include not only UCCS scholar-interns but journalists from the Capitol Correspondents Association and members of the Sacramento press corps. The workshop thus gives UCCS students an opportunity to learn not only from CCJ training staff but from veteran reporters whose insights enhance the overall experience.

Internships: Following “Boot Camp,” Scholar Interns work 24 to 33 hours per week as credentialed reporters for media organizations in assignments that earn academic credit. Internships are available with newspapers, magazines, public radio, newsletters and television. Placements are tailored to students’ skill and training but may also depend on a Scholar Intern’s experience in journalism.

Seminars and Special Events: UCCS frequently hosts guest speakers, including legislators, agency secretaries and members of the executive branch, staff aides from the Legislature, University of California faculty, journalists, lobbyists and others. The weekly schedule usually includes a Tuesday breakfast Q-and-A session, a Thursday evening “film night” and a Friday morning seminar.

For more information, contact A.G. Block, program director, at (916) 445-7300 or ag.block@ucop.edu. You may also visit UCCS at <http://uccs.universityofcalifornia.edu>.