



The Lawn Chair Philosophy Foundation:
Building Libraries; Building Courses; Building Community

LCP Foundation's Service-Learning Internship Program

The Lawn Chair Philosophy Foundation's Service-Learning Internship Program offers undergraduate students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in nonprofit public educational outreach while receiving coaching in one of two possible course tracks: Nonprofit Leadership or Emerging Scholars Independent Study.

Each internship course is designed with the unique needs and interests of the student in mind, catering to their availability and the academic calendar of their home institutions. As such, a course in our Service Learning Internship Program may serve the span of a semester, an intersession gap, a summer session, or a year-long project.

Nonprofit Leadership

This internship track is ideal for business, marketing, writing, digital art, and communications students. Students majoring in other study areas are encouraged to apply if they are interested in creatively relating their specific skill sets to the field of nonprofit public educational outreach.

Interns will tour the fundamentals of ethical nonprofit leadership in one or more of the following major concentration areas: social media marketing and content, fundraising, and program development. Studies will culminate in a professional portfolio representing their original contributions to our efforts in one or more of the major concentration areas.

Course Objectives

1. Interns shall become familiar with national and state regulations for forming, running, and maintaining nonprofit organizations in the state of Pennsylvania.
2. Interns shall be able to articulate the differences between governmental regulations and moral regulations, as well as distinguish the various normative relationships between governmental and moral nonprofit regulations.
3. Interns shall explore the value of mission-driven service from the following moral perspectives: deontology, utilitarianism, phenomenology, and social justice.
4. Interns shall be able to evaluate the purposive integrity of nonprofit program structures, objectives, and activities as vehicles for grounding and realizing a nonprofit's mission.

5. Interns shall be able to identify ethical marketing and fundraising strategies that honor state and federal nonprofit regulations, robustly embody educational service missions, objective modes, and activities, and authentic impact evaluations.
6. Interns shall demonstrate their original philosophical voice at play with our axioms, mission, and teleologically motivated program activities in their creative contributions, represented in their final portfolio.¹

Course Requirements

1. Final Portfolio: Interns will submit a final reflection and portfolio highlighting the work completed over the course of the internship.
2. Concentration Proficiency: Interns shall demonstrate successful mastery of their chosen concentration area(s).

Emerging Scholars Independent Study

This internship track is ideal for philosophy students or students within the greater humanities interested in specializing in philosophy. Interns will partake in an intensive independent research study on a given theme from the history of philosophy and apply their research to a concrete matter of interest. Their research will culminate in a paper presentation at a virtual mini-conference that they help organize for our Emerging Scholars series to share their studies and philosophical insight with the public.

Course Objectives

1. Interns shall be able to articulate major themes and concepts from the history of philosophy.
2. Interns shall be able to apply major themes and concepts from the history of philosophy to a concrete issue to illuminate its urgency and complexity and propose possible solutions.
3. Interns shall be able to organize and run a mini-conference around a theme relevant to the course subject module and/or the chosen concrete ethical issue for public philosophy outreach.

¹ Interns are encouraged to share the contents of their portfolio on their professional social media or web presence for exposure so long as we are permitted to use their portfolio contributions in our public nonprofit endeavors.

Course Requirements

1. Term Paper: Interns will write a 4,000-word argumentative research paper using 12-point Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, and double spacing. In preparation for the term paper, interns will submit a thesis statement, outline, and annotated bibliography with ten entries, an abstract draft, and two paper drafts. The final paper submission must include a title page, abstract, and works cited page.
2. Mini-Conference Organization: Interns will organize a mini-conference for the Lawn Chair Philosophy Foundation's Emerging Scholars series. Interns will have the choice of organizing either a virtual or in-person conference. Interns will be involved in choosing fellow presenters, determining a date/time, securing a keynote speaker, ordering the presentations, and creating advertisements.
3. Mini-Conference Presentation: Interns will present a revised draft of their final paper submission at the mini-conference they organize.