

"A traditional course is all about reading the textbook, taking notes and memorizing. With a traditional course, an individual only gets an overview of the topic. You can't get in depth with the topic because of the limited time.

With an internship course, there is hands on contact. What you have read in the textbook becomes real. It is as if you made up your own textbook. You concentrate on the area you're interested in, and make your own observations and develop your own questions. Whatever you learn in this situation will stay with you. There's no room for memorization. You make your own memories as you go along."

"I am feeling that I am breaking through the surface of the distant, impersonal theories I've read about concerning the situations I am dealing with and hearing about into a stark reality, into the realization that these situations are real and concern people I am seeing day to day. It is a haunting new awareness that is just beginning. How do I effectively deal with this transition? I feel I have lived such a sheltered life."

"In most of my other courses I have read a lot of books, taken tests, and written research papers--typical college stuff. Interestingly, I could skip a day of class very easily without calling the professor and explaining why I wasn't there, but this internship compels me to be there on the days scheduled and if something major comes up, I would not dream of not calling and letting them know why I wouldn't be there. I suppose this has much more of a job feel than class does."

"I did learn things here I could not have learned in class. This helped me to put my book knowledge to work in a non-threatening setting. If I screwed up, I was not getting fired. I learned a lot about criminal law, made some definite decisions about what type of law I would like to go into if I go to law school, and I managed to overcome my personal shyness. Pretty good for only a semester."

"In this internship course I'm learning a lot of valuable skills that I will use forever. What kind of class could really teach you how to communicate with people unlike yourself? At first I found it very difficult to communicate with the clients because I was unsure how to act. Now I feel very comfortable with most of the clients and I can tell that they feel comfortable with me. There's no way that you could learn that in a classroom with your peers. I think this course incorporates learning from traditional courses, but here you get to apply it. Most traditional course learning comes from memorization but here it comes from thinking. I do believe that this is a course that I've learned the most from during my college career and I also

enjoyed doing it."

"I think that I have definitely gained confidence in my "professional" self. Also, I realize that there is a "dork period" in very new job. It lasts a while, and it is a period when you do not know what you are doing because it just takes that long to understand how the office works."

"An important thing to remember in an internship is to ask questions. The most important matter to stay focused on though, is the sociological perspective while entrenched in this internship. Many of the actions that happen during a day are highly individual, and as a result it can be easy to forget that they did not appear out of a vacuum all by themselves. There are many contributing factors."

"I have been noticing that these kids really do have things in common. It amazes me how many of these kids have parents with histories of criminal activities. I am also amazed by the number of kids living below the poverty level. I know that these things shouldn't shock me like they do because I have read many textbooks and many articles that have said the same things. I guess it is just different when you come face-to-face with the data yourself and can put faces with the statistics. After all, these are kids, not just sets of numbers to me anymore."

"This internship has enabled me to see past my own limited world and into the everyday lives of others. I've definitely gained a new perspective. This is good and bad. Good because I have seen and experienced many wonderful people that otherwise I probably would never have had the opportunity to meet. It's bad because I must now acknowledge and no longer deny the obvious--and that is how bad some of these people's lives really are. Wife abuse, child abuse, crime, and drug abuse are happening every second of every day. Where before I didn't see it, my eyes were shut to it, they are now wide open!"

"The internship is proof that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. No matter what it is that you think you know, there is going to come a time during the internship where you're going to feel like a pig on roller skates. But, how you overcome this, as opposed to how you react to the situation, will determine how much you have really learned, and how much you need to still learn, about the real world. An internship is very "in-your-face" about this."

"I have a new found confidence in myself, a sense of accomplishment, and pride in helping others. I have gained a new respect for myself. Some days my supervisor would give me a list of things to do, and I would think "I can't do all these things!" But I did accomplish them, and it did give me a

sense of pride...I probably underestimated this internship, because looking back on it, it was more than I could have hoped for."