

HFT 4941
Field Study in Hospitality Administration

Instructor: Dr. Robert A. Brymer

Office: UCB-B 4100

Office Hours: While I maintain an open door policy, my duties as School Director can often require my presence elsewhere. If you need to see me, try to make an appointment.

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Dedman School of Hospitality Office: 644-4787 (Mr. Tim Middleton), and 644-4853.
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Course Goal: The purpose of this course is to verify that the student has successfully completed 1,000 hours of practical work experience in the hospitality industry.

Course Objectives: 1) Verification of student's work experience; 2) comprehension of actual hospitality industry working conditions through practical experience and class discussion; and 3) assist students with career choices through analysis of companies and formal interview process.

Co-requisite: HFT 4224

Grading: S/U grade only

Course Description: Students in the Dedman School of Hospitality are required to complete 1,000 hours of practical work experience prior to graduation. The last 500 hours must be earned by the student after enrolling at Florida State University. Therefore, up to 500 hours of work experience may be awarded for work performed after high school, or while enrolled in another post-secondary institution.

Unique situations may occur, and students should always contact the School Director for clarification. International students and student-athletes are two examples of unique student situations. These students may be unable to earn the 500 hours while maintaining full-time enrollment at Florida State University.

Students can utilize an internship (HFT 3941r) to satisfy work experience. Internships can be paid or not paid. Specific requirements may apply for an internship. Interested students should consult with the faculty responsible for internships; Dr. Ernie Lanford, 644-0886 (PGM Program); or Mr. Charles LaTour, 644-8245 (general department internships).

Ideally, students will have completed their 1,000 hours of work experience at least one semester prior to their semester of graduation. Students must have turned in the Employer Internship Evaluation Form, completed by their employer. Work experience will be verified by the School Director through contact with the employer.

Work experience should be varied. By the time the student is ready to interview in their senior year, their resume should present a clear record of work experience and accomplishment to prospective employers. Students should actively seek different job experiences. Ideally the student has taken positions of increasing responsibilities with each new job. If a student finds working for a specific employer to their liking, the student should seek to fill different positions in the company.

Examples of acceptable work include all traditional positions in food and beverage operations, and lodging operations. Positions in a travel firm, airline, or recreation-type industry are also acceptable. Unacceptable work includes lifeguard, construction, non-hospitality accounting, landscape architecture, retail shopping, entertainment, and fraternity/sorority positions. If the student is in doubt as to the acceptability of the job, see the School Director for approval.

Specific student responsibilities in HFT 4941 include 1) finding acceptable employment; 2) assuring that the employer completes the [Employer Internship Evaluation Form](#) for each job held; 3) submit the [Student Internship Evaluation Form](#) that summarizes the work experience of each employer; and 4) participate in class discussions involving career opportunities and work experience.

Specific faculty responsibilities in HFT 4941 include 1) discuss course/program requirements with students; 2) review [Employer Internship Evaluation Form](#); 3) review [Student Internship Evaluation Form](#); 4) assist students with career opportunities and job information; and 5) verify student employment with employer.

NOTE: All work experience material will be turned in to Dr. Brymer no later than the midpoint of the semester. For fall semester, that date is approximately October 20; for spring semester, that date is approximately March 20. For summer semester, that date is July 20. Work experience forms turned in later than these dates may not receive credit, and the student might possibly earn a U grade.

Note: HFT 4941 is a required class for graduation. Even though it carries no credit, it must be successfully completed in order to graduate. If a student fails to submit the required paperwork, the student will receive a U grade. The student receiving a U grade may 'walk' in graduation ceremonies, but will never officially graduate from FSU or receive a diploma.

If there are any questions with respect to Work Experience, please direct them to Dr. Robert A. Brymer, Director of the Dedman School of Hospitality, at 850-644-8243.