



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Call for Applications

DEADLINE: Friday, February 16, 2024

The [Presley Center of Crime & Justice Studies](#) is excited to announce its call for applications for the [San Bernardino County Superior Court](#) Summer Internship program. This immersive learning experience provides students the unique opportunity to explore the innerworkings of the judicial system through weekly presentations by sitting judges and field experts, courtroom observations, interaction with current law school students, and elective field trips to criminal justice agencies. All UCR students in good academic standing who are interested in criminal justice and legal careers are eligible and encouraged to apply.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The internship begins June 17th and concludes on August 9th (8 weeks). Participation is in-person at the San Bernardino County Courthouse in downtown San Bernardino on Mondays and Fridays. Additionally, interns are encouraged to attend additional court observations and participate in site visits throughout the week as their schedule allows.

Each week of the internship is dedicated to a singly legal theme (e.g. felonies, misdemeanors, probate, family law, juvenile law, etc.) and includes the following activities:

- **Presentations by a Superior Court Judge**: Kick off your Monday with a presentation from a sitting Superior Court Judge on the week's topic, offering a unique perspective and sharing valuable experiences from the bench.
- **Courtroom Observations**: After the judge's Monday morning presentation, you will be provided a schedule of hearings related to the week's topic. Choose 6-8 hours of trials based on your interests and watch legal proceedings unfold in real-time.
- **Site Visits**: Expand your understanding of different facets of the judicial system by touring other criminal justice agencies – including the jail, Sheriff's Department, and Appellate Courts, among others. These are optional experiences, usually scheduled midweek and interns are highly encouraged to attend as their schedules allow.
- **Interact with Law Students**: You will intern alongside law students who are completing their externship requirements, which provides you the unique opportunity to network with and learn from current law students.
- **Recap the Week with Field Experts**: Each Friday you will reconvene with your cohort for a debrief presentation by a field expert (e.g. public defender, etc.) who will discuss your court observations, site visits, and provide additional context to help round out your understanding of the week's topic.

The internship is unpaid, but credit is available to students who enroll in PBPL 198i or similar course.

ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is designed for students with an established interest in law/criminal justice and those who are unsure of their professional plans, but would like to learn more about the field.

Students are eligible to apply if they meet the following requirements:

- Are a currently enrolled UCR student;
- Are in good academic standing; and are



- Able to complete the internship as described (see: ‘program description’), including in-person attendance in Downtown San Bernardino.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying for the San Bernardino County Superior Court Summer Internship, you must submit the following application materials as a single PDF:

- A **cover sheet** that includes your:
 - Full name;
 - Student identification number;
 - Major; and your
 - Anticipated graduation date.
- A **one-page, singled-spaced personal statement** that explains:
 - Your interest in law and/or the criminal justice system;
 - How the internship aligns with your academic/professional goals; and
 - Any skills, training, or prior experience that you believe will make you a good intern.
- An **unofficial copy of your UCR transcripts**;
- A **copy of your resume** (optional)

Please **merge all files into a single PDF** and **submit your application packet to presleycenter@ucr.edu** with the subject line ‘San Bernardino County Superior Court Application’ by 11:59pm on Friday, February 16th.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Presley Center’s Associate Director, Justine Ross (justine.ross@ucr.edu), if you have questions about the internship program or your application.