2021 CSU Extension Internship Proposal

"Spanish in Professional Work Environments"

Faculty Contact Information:

Andrea Purdy
Associate Professor of Spanish
Dept of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
College of Liberal Arts
andrea.purdy@colostate.edu

Nyssa Knarvik
Assistant Professor of Spanish
Dept of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
College of Liberal Arts
nyssa.knarvik@colostate.edu

Extension mentor pending

In what region(s) will the student be working (county/region)?
The student will be working in the state of Colorado but the country/region is flexible

Please describe the proposed internship goals, scope, and objectives.
The goal of this internship is to assist with analysis and improvement of Spanish in professional work environments. This work will include, but not be limited to, research involving an analysis of need of Spanish language skills in the fields of health care and social work. In this part of the internship, the intern will assist in interviewing health care and social work professionals about the interaction they have with Spanish speakers and their language skill needs in their particular professions. These interviews will then be transcribed and the needs of specific professions will be categorized. The objectives of this research are to better understand how and when professionals in these careers need and use Spanish with their patients/clients. Other internship duties may include working with Spanish speaking populations in professional settings and work with Spanish/English translation.

How was this applied research project identified?
As the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures is adding a new concentration in Spanish for Professions, there is a need to carry out needs analyses to ensure that the language coursework that is developed is pertinent and applicable in these professional fields.

With which stakeholder group(s) will the intern work?
The intern will work with many stakeholders: professionals, faculty, and students in various professional fields and possibly clients/patients of these fields.

What student learning outcomes do you anticipate and are there opportunities for professional development?
Anticipated learning outcomes may include: identifying stakeholders, interviewing stakeholders, transcribing interviews, compiling data, categorizing data and translation skills. Professional development opportunities include: interview skills, professional networking, transcription, data analysis and translation skills.