

# BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee Internship Course

*BAS - Bachelor of Applied Sciences*  
*IPS - Interdisciplinary Professional Studies*

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*IPS 495: Capstone*  
*Fall 2022*  
*Dr. Margaret Sass*



**BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
SERVICE-LEARNING

## INTRODUCTION

The objective was to create an internship course complete with academic content and resources designed specifically for students who elect to serve as student leaders on the recently proposed BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee.

The internship course will equip the student committee members with the information, techniques, and strategies necessary for them to successfully accomplish their assigned tasks on behalf of BAS/IPS program initiatives.

## PROJECT PURPOSE & COMMUNITY NEED

Student committee members provide unique perspectives and insights that allow faculty and staff to better identify and attend to any gaps, needs, and desires pertaining to the program, while giving students an opportunity to apply program-specific concepts such as creative problem solving, integrative thinking, strategic networking, and purposeful reflection in an experiential learning environment.

The overall success of the BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee is dependent upon students being equipped with the tools and knowledge necessary for the roles and responsibilities they assume, which gives purpose and direction for the development of the supplemental BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee Internship Course.

The instructional material guides the students through the collaborative process and prepares them to navigate challenges they may encounter while working as a group. It helps bridge the gap between the students' various starting points, develops a common language, invites shared understanding, expands networks, and creates meaningful experiences for the students.

*"This provides foundational knowledge for training the committee to get them up and running quickly so they can do meaningful work throughout the semester." - Anonymous BAS/IPS Faculty Member*

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

**ALEXIS KENYON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**  
*Bachelor of Applied Sciences & Bachelor of Arts*  
*in Interdisciplinary Professional Studies*

Alexis helped guide the discussion surrounding the supplemental internship course and helped develop the internship course learning objectives.



## BAS/IPS STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MISSION & OBJECTIVE

To serve as a focus group tasked with providing valuable feedback and thoughtful discussion around program initiatives based on the student experience to enhance and explore current and existing program offerings in an effort to remain relevant, innovative, and dynamic in our course of study.

## RESULTS

The full impact of this capstone project remains to be seen as the BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee and supplemental Internship Course is scheduled to launch in the Fall 2023 semester at Boise State University.

Development of the supplemental Internship Course for the recently proposed BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee allows the department to move this new student initiative from the development stage and into the implementation phase.

The implementation phase involves partnering with eCampus to begin building the course into the Canvas platform using the course roadmap, syllabus, and instructional materials I've provided to the BAS/IPS program administration team.

This experiential learning opportunity promises to enhance and expand the growth and development of future BAS/IPS students.

## COURSE CONCEPTS & METHODS

In order to develop a comprehensive internship course that would satisfy the needs of the key stakeholders (BAS/IPS students, faculty, and administration) and align with the BAS/IPS Program Learning Objectives, it was necessary to apply integrative thinking and creative problem-solving skills in response to the question, *"How might I better equip future BAS/IPS students to serve effectively in their roles on the new BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee so that they become a successful, productive, and cohesive team?"*

- **Integrative Thinking:** I was diligent about exploring the seemingly unexpected connections and remained curious in my approach to addressing this challenge.
- **Creative Problem-Solving:** I examined possible solutions from various perspectives and considered what each decision might mean for the different stakeholders involved. I asked several questions in order to gain additional insight and challenge any fixed thinking or bias that I may have been unaware of.

The development of this new student initiative required:

- In-depth research and analysis on the benefits of developing committee members and the common pitfalls that most often hinder group collaboration and cohesion.
- Intentional networking and strategic communication to build and maintain rapport with community partners.
- Consideration and awareness of the end users' goals and objectives while serving on the BAS/IPS Student Advisory Committee to help create additional value for the students.

## INTERNSHIP COURSE CONCEPTS & MODULES

- Module 1: Understanding the Purpose & the Process*
- Module 2: Thoughtful Introspection & Extrospection*
- Module 3: Active Listening & Asking Good Questions*
- Module 4: Navigating Roadblocks, Hurdles & Conflicts*
- Module 5: Having Influence & Leading from the Middle*
- Module 6: Trusting Leadership & Trusting Teams*
- Module 7: Looking Back & Planning for the Future*