CourtWatch is a court monitoring program founded in 2010 by the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC), located in Renton, WA. It was established for the purpose of holding the justice system accountable for its handling of sexual assault and child abuse cases, and to create a more informed public. Court monitoring is a way to gather information about the courts by observing legal proceedings, as well as conducting research on individual cases, court practices and procedures. CourtWatch Monitors produce data to support anecdotal evidence about what happens in King County Courts; their presence also provides transparency in the legal process.

Observations and information collected by volunteer CourtWatch Monitors is used to improve court processes. Volunteers are trained to be unobtrusive observers, and document both procedural and substantive information about the cases that they observe.

The CourtWatch internships are unpaid and this year, the Department of Sociology will be able to place up to four (4) student interns at CourtWatch.

**Desired qualifications**
The CourtWatch internship is best suited for students with particular interests in evolving family structures, gender, human rights, power dynamics, and sexual violence issues. Students interested in law will gain exposure to and an understanding of complex court proceedings.

Students must be able to stay focused for long periods of time, listen and observe well, must possess strong oral and written communication skills, and be able to use discretion and maintain confidentiality. The CourtWatch internship requires maturity, diligence, responsibility, and careful attention to detail.

**Intern responsibilities**
CourtWatch Interns volunteer for at least one shift (3.5 hours/week) in winter and spring quarters at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent and/or the King County Courthouse in Seattle. In addition, interns should expect to spend some time reading background information on cases before shifts, and time synthesizing and typing up observations after a shift.
The primary work involves court monitoring – the process of gathering information about court proceedings through observation. Interns will observe King County Superior Court cases related to sexual assault, and complete targeted questionnaires so that their work can be used to track individual cases and important trends in different court calendars. Based on interns’ observations, CourtWatch staff will follow up with justice system personnel to reinforce positive trends as well as recommending improvements that will make the justice system more effective in its handling of cases involving sexual assault victims.

**Important things to know:**

- The CourtWatch internship position is a two-quarter commitment for winter and spring quarters. Students who are offered an internship position must also enroll in SOC 404 (Th 11:30-1:20pm) a weekly two-hour seminar, in winter quarter. Because SOC 404 is not repeatable, in spring quarter students earn academic credit through enrolling in SOC 399B while completing the second quarter of their internship.

- Interns will observe and report on court proceedings at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent (401 4th Ave N, Kent 98032) and/or the King County Courthouse in Seattle (516 3rd Ave, Seattle 98104). Applicants may indicate a location preference on their applications but should note that there is a greater need for student interns at the Kent location. Students who are able to volunteer at either location have a greater chance of being selected.

- Interns provide their own transportation to and from court.

- To participate, applicants must be current UW-Seattle students and U.S. citizens. Priority will be given to Sociology majors but students from other majors are welcome to apply.

- Applicants will undergo a background check. Students with prior convictions or with a history of interpersonal violence are not eligible to apply.

- As part of the application process, students will have an initial interview with Susanna Hansson in the Sociology Advising office. Finalists for the positions will then interview with CourtWatch staff before their internship can be finalized. All interview times will be set up with students via email.

- The complete applications of students who become finalists for an internship position are shared with staff at the internship location.
Schedule:

- Students who are offered an intern position must be available to attend the mandatory CourtWatch orientation on Friday January 6, 2017 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at the King County Sexual Assault Resource, 200 Mill Ave S. #10, Renton, WA 98057.

- The weekly commitment is AT LEAST one shift per week for 9 weeks in both winter and spring quarters.

- Interns will fill the following shifts at either the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent, WA or King County Courthouse in downtown Seattle. The shift times are NOT negotiable.
  - Mon, Tue, and Wed: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 – 4:30 pm
  - Fridays: 1:00 – 4:30 pm
Application for Sociology Department Internship at CourtWatch

Applications are due at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 23, 2016

1. In addition to completing this cover page, please include the following (in the order listed):
2. A personal statement (see below)
3. A copy of your resume
4. An unofficial copy of your UW transcript.

Personal statement: In 1-2 double-spaced pages describe your interests and qualifications and how they make you a good fit for this internship, as well as how you believe the internship together with the practicum course will help further your intellectual and career goals. In your statement, please mention any skills, experience or knowledge that you feel matches the qualifications for this position. If you are proficient in languages other than English, make sure to indicate that on your resume.

Please confirm in your statement that you commit to interning for two consecutive quarters and that you can meet the specific shift requirements and/or trainings that this internship requires.

Drop off a hard copy of your application by 12:00 noon on Wednesday November 23rd, 2016 in the Sociology Advising Office, Savery Hall 203. In addition, please scan your application (single sided in the order listed above) and email it as a PDF to Susanna Hansson at susanna@uw.edu by the same deadline.

NOTE: We will be contacting student applicants over Thanksgiving weekend to set up the first round of interviews that will take place November 28th-December 1 in the Sociology Advising office. Please monitor your UW email account frequently during the Thanksgiving break.

Please complete the information below before you print out this cover sheet.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name ____________________________ Student Number ____________________________

Major ____________________________ Class Standing Win 17: ____________________________

UW email: ____________________________ Phone: ____________________________

LinkedIn profile: ____________________________

Students may apply for up to two internship positions. However, a targeted, carefully considered application for one position is often stronger than more generic applications for multiple positions. If this describes you: “I don’t care where I intern, I just want an internship; any internship,” you risk coming across as desperate rather than as a thoughtful applicant who has given a great deal of thought to the kind of organization and type of work you would like to be involved in. If you wish to apply for more than one position, please complete a separate application and a position-specific personal statement for the second internship position as well.

Questions? Email susanna@uw.edu