INTRODUCTION
Political Science 480, Practicum in Politics and Public Service, provides a context in which undergraduate political science majors and minors can supplement classroom learning with a greater understanding of the discipline of political science and/or actual experience in the political arena. Political Science 480 can serve as a bridge between academia and the real world of research and politics. Opportunities include research projects and/or placement in government, government agencies, and other public service organizations. Some placements result from request from interested parties, others are arranged by faculty members. In some cases, students identify their desired placement. All placements are negotiated by faculty members and a representative of the agency or office. If a working relationship is successfully negotiated, a Memorandum of Understanding is issued and then signed by a faculty member or supervising faculty member, the student, and the agency representative.

POLITICAL SCIENCE 480 OPTIONS
- **Public or Government Organization Internships** – These placements result from direct requests from such organizations or arrangement by faculty members with such organizations. In some cases students identify their desired placement. Desire placements cannot be guaranteed.
- **Legislative Internship Program** – The Legislative Internship Program involves the student being assigned to a state legislator for the annual legislative session which extends from January through March. The Program requires a student to spend two days a week in Denver. Acceptance into the program cannot be guaranteed.
- **Research Internship** – Such internships involve research on a specific political topic that a faculty member is currently working on and is carried out under the direct supervision of that faculty member. Acceptance for a research internship cannot be guaranteed.

COURSE CREDIT
For 3 credit hours, a minimum of 9 hours of intern work per week is required for a total of 110 hours of field work.
For 6 credit hours, a minimum of 18 hours of intern work per week is required for a total of 220 hours of field work.
An “S” is assigned for satisfactory performance.

PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIPS
- **Hours** – Students are required to keep a written record of hours worked which will be submitted with a final report on the internship experience. The hours worked must be validated by the agency/field supervisor.
EXAMPLES OF INTERNSHIPS

Public or Government Organization Internships

State and Local Government
These placements include:
- Municipal and county agencies
- State administrative agencies
- Campaign offices of state, county, and municipal elected officials

Federal Government
These placements include:
- Local offices of House and Senate members
- Local offices of Federal agencies
- Federal offices located in Washington, DC (note: These positions require at least one semester out of school or placement during the summer)

Some past placements include the following:
- Government, County
  - Human Resources
  - Planning and Development
  - District Attorney
  - Commissioners
  - Sheriff’s Department
- Juvenile Diversion Program, District Attorney’s Office
- Government, City
  - Administration
  - City Council
  - Pueblo City Airport
  - Pueblo West
  - Planning and Zoning
  - Agencies
- Southern Central Reemployment
- League of Women Voters
  - Federal
- Congressman Salazar
- Senator Udall
  - Other
- Colorado Democratic Coordinating Campaign
  - El Paso County Republicans
  - Homeland Security Placements
  - Pueblo Health Department

FACULTY CONTACTS
All Political Science faculty can help you with an internship; however, the following faculty are responsible for specific placements:

Dr. Colette Carter: Federal, State and Local Organizations
Dr. Gayle Berardi: Colorado Legislative Internship
Dr. Steve Liebel: Homeland Security