

Child Advocacy Center

<http://www.childadvocacycentergainesville.org>

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Overview & Mission: The Child Advocacy Center in Gainesville provides a child friendly, safe and supportive environment for abused and neglected children. The Center is a place where professionals – social workers, counselors, law enforcement officers, state attorneys, victim advocates, medical professionals and others – work as a team to coordinate investigations and interventions for each child abuse case. This collaboration expedites each child's time in the legal system and ensures that children are not re-victimized by the system and that they and their families are provided the support and services needed. Our mission is to provide a comprehensive, child-friendly facility where professionals from law enforcement, medical, child protection and therapeutic services effectively collaborate to meet the individual needs of child victims and break the cycle of abuse

Number of Credits: 1 credit = 3 hours per week = 45 hours per semester; 2 credits = 7 hours per week = 90 hours per semester; 3 credits = 10 hours per week = 135 hours per semester.

Schedule Requirements: Two semester commitment required. A set work schedule is preferred, but flexibility is available if needed. Interns will work out of the Child Advocacy Center at 500 E. University Ave, but will also have the opportunity to witness criminal/civil court proceedings, observe forensic interviews at the CAC, work with children and their families at the CAC and at the Child Protection Team and working with other agencies at the CAC as well as other locations.

Prerequisites/Qualifications: Willingness to learn, willingness to work hard, good with children, people person, an understanding of computers, able to handle emergency situation, work well with databases, willing to participate/volunteer in outside events, a good understanding of confidentiality, transportation, professional demeanor, calm but upbeat personality, organized and good listening skills.

What activities will the intern take part in, and how do they relate to Women's/Gender studies?

Interns are assigned to one of our three advocates. Interns will Shadow Victim Advocates during case staffings, court, and task force meetings/trainings. Interns will also help with opening new cases in the database, sit with children while they wait to have a forensic interview, meet with families, and take part in any event center events.

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