

Proposed Internship Class for *Student*

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Form by AutismCoaches.com 866-MY-COACH / barb@autismcoaches.com

Date

Read & Remove When Done: [instructions in brackets]; *replace italics with your details*

To: *Contact Person*
College /University
Department of _____

Re: *Proposed For-Credit Internship for Student,*
Freshman/Sophomore/Junior/Senior, to graduate Month, Year
Studentsemail@theirschool.edu
Student.phone.number

Date (this version): *Date (replaces all prior versions)*

Proposed Class "Title": *"Learning and Applying The Son-Rise Program® to Treat Childhood Autism"*

Course Number: *[include department name & course number, e.g. "Psychology 220: Field Experience"]*

Course Credits: *Number of credits (usually 1- 3)*

Type: *General Course Credits (not in any particular department)*
[or] Departmental Credits (____ Department) [choose one]

Compensation: *Unpaid [or if Paid, pay structure]*

Timing: *To run during: [pick one or more or adapt for your school]*
[Option 1: Spring/Summer Session 1, Year: Proposed Dates]
[Option 2: Summer Session 2, Year: Proposed Dates]
[Option 3: Fall Semester, Year: Proposed Dates]
[Option 4: Winter Semester, Year: Proposed Dates]

University Contact/Professor: *Name, Title, Department*

Internship Provider: *Your Name (e.g. Barbara Fernandez), Program Head/Team Leader*
/Instructor
The Name You Give Your Program
Your phone# (e.g. 866-MY-COACH)
Email: your email (e.g. barb@autismcoaches.com)

Internship Location: *Your Address / City, State, Zip*

[Optional: Alternate Location(s)]: *Other sites with autistic children using The Son-Rise Program® or other therapies such as "ABA" or "Floortime" may be visited by Student for comparison by approval of Internship Provider, but only after regular session hours and other obligations such as study time has been met, and following terms set by the On-Site Instructor. Participation at other sites will not count toward this Internship unless Internship Provider gives prior approval. All needed session time at primary internship location must take priority over arranged sessions elsewhere. In the event the main Internship Location has arranged for a visiting session at an alternate location, then for any*

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reason chooses to call back that Intern to do session time (for example due to staffing changes that result in time needing to be covered), the Intern will cancel any hours at alternate location and arrange to staff the main Internship Location.

Hours per Day / Week: *Your school's required hours/week [or semester] over [e.g. 10] weeks*

Proposed Schedule:

Option 1: No Team Meetings Required:

Playroom time: 3sessions/wk each 2.5 hrs =	7.5 hrs/wk
Training time: 1 session/wk each 0.5 hrs =1	<u>0.5 hrs/wk min</u>
	8.0 hrs/week
Over 10 weeks x 8.0 hrs/wk =	80 hrs/semester

-----OR-----

Option 1: No Team Meetings Required:

Playroom time: 3sessions/wk each 2.5 hrs =	7.5 hrs/wk
Training time: 1 session/wk each 0.5 hrs =1	<u>0.5 hrs/wk min</u>
	8.0 hrs/week

Over 10 weeks (typical semester)=	80 hrs/semester
Team meetings, in this case 2 hrs/2wksx10wks=	<u>10hrs/semester</u>
	90 hrs/semester

[Adjust to meet your school's weekly / semester-long hourly goals, and make sure you have a few extra sessions because you will lose some to illness that won't be able to make up or holidays. People taking fewer credits can do 2 sessions/week or fewer weeks.]

Assignments:

Team Leader will assign homework and assignments such as media for reading, listening, and watching, as well as other team support assignment such as developing and procuring materials and activities for the playroom.

Actual teaching materials include a selection of course-related books, such as Autism Breakthrough, Happiness is a Choice, Son-Rise: the Miracle Continues, and To Love Is To Be Happy With. Other instruction includes direction teaching and question and answer with instructor, viewing of on-line "webinars", listening to "course CDs" and other CDs from the Son-Rise Program and Option Institute, such as the "12-Lecture Series by Barry Neil Kaufman". All learning materials will be applicable to deepening understanding of and improving effectiveness of the Student at using Son-Rise therapy.

Course Content Summary:

The student will learn and apply the portion of the principles and practices of the Son-Rise Program for treating childhood autism that can be imparted during the internship period:

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(1) Student will learn and use Son-Rise Therapy techniques, including but not limited to “joining” autistic behaviors, and how to stay in “The Attitude” (loving, accepting, non-judgmental, happy, playful) throughout the session.

(2) Student will learn the philosophical and psychological basis of the Son-Rise Program, including but not limited to:

-The “Stimulus-Belief-Response” (“SBR”) model of why people do what they do and feel how they feel, which is at the heart of the Son-Rise Program.

-The “Option Process Dialogue”, a talk therapy in which a person explores their beliefs that fuel their feelings, behaviors, and other beliefs, in the presence of a “mentor” who asks questions, with a nonjudgmental, nondirective, loving attitude.

-Underlying principles of the philosophy, such as:
-Happiness is a choice.

-Everything we do, feel and believe is at least in part intentional and thus changeable.

-There is no “unconscious” part of our brain (operating in the way Freud postulated) that we can’t understand, change or “get at” by our dialogue explorations.

-Autism is curable.

-What we react to/focus on grows (particularly the interactive impulses and behaviors of autistic children we hope to recover).

-Beliefs can be changed in an instant, even if we’ve held them our whole lives up to that point.

Records:

Written records of course hours, teachings, homework (such as study materials assigned) will be kept and sent to University Contact/Professor as requested or required. Playroom sessions involving the student will be recorded and submitted via DVD or made available online at the request of the advising professor. All recordings of playroom sessions will remain the property of this program.

Evaluation will be based on:

1. Excellence and contribution in her performance in the playroom overall with her/his autistic subject, independent of other factors;
2. Professionalism: regular, reliable, on-time and prepared for session hours, ease of interactions with me, her supervisor; prompt responses to all communications, especially frequent schedule changes; willingness to speak up about challenges to her studentship with me, such as difficulty learning particular things;
3. Good-faith buy-in and effort to perform as trained and requested, willingness to try new techniques and thoughts, independent of playroom performance quality;

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4. Ownership of the team effort and responsibilities, evidenced by willingness to go beyond basic requirements in support of the overall team effort, such as flexibility in the face of changing or unusual events, offering to do extra sessions, change her session times, and vigorous problem solving in response to challenges to her participation;
5. Studiosness during and outside session time in support of her performance here: reading, listening to and discussing training materials and teachings, active studentship and speaking up about challenges, asking good questions, independent of other factors;
6. Speed of learning, independent of other factors;

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION (must be signed by all participants):

- GUIDING PRINCIPLE:
 - This is a real-world autism therapy program that exists for the primary purpose of curing a child of autism in a safe, healthy, respectful, constructive, efficient and emotionally nurturing way. Your participation here as an intern is secondary to that goal and conditional on you overall benefitting rather than hurting or distracting from it, and at a level similar to other participants. All evaluations and decisions in this regard are 100% determined by the Team Leader / Instructor.
 - If your participation for any reason causes a drag on or threatens that goal, or causes a disproportionate burden or inconvenience compared with typical team members, you will be asked to change and in most cases issued a warning, but may be removed progressively or immediately at the discretion of the Team Leader, depending on the severity of the problem. Your position here is not guaranteed but based on your on-going constructive participation.
 - Your participation may be reduced or curtailed (temporarily or permanently) until you change. This may jeopardize you passing your internship class.
 - If your behavior doesn't improve you may be moved to an alternate and you'll need to increase your home study to complete your internship hours until when and if you work your way back into regular sessions.
 - If your behavior constitutes too serious of a risk to continue, such as lapses in judgment that make the Team Leader unable to feel comfortable leaving you in her home or with her child, you may be removed immediately and without any warning, and may not be reinstated. If this happens:
 - You must return all our study materials immediately if requested;
 - You alone will begin the process of petitioning your school to recast your internship to involve another Son-Rise family or as a primarily Independent Study class, with research and paper writing using materials you obtain for yourself.
 - You might be able to get an incomplete for the course and retake it with another family and complete it with a passing grade in a future semester.
 - It's possible you could offer to do other things for our program, like picking up books from the library or brainstorming by phone, and this could earn you instructional time, at the discretion of the Team Leader.
 - If you are removed from our team, any further instructional time with our program in any form will be at the discretion of the Team Leader. Since instruction and experience is given in exchange for

- session time, if session time ceases, we have no further obligation to train you.
- Examples of behaviors warranting immediate reduction or removal from our team are in a separate section below.
- PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES:
 - You are part of a team of typically around 13-15 people and must work effectively within that environment in every way relevant to the position, and on par with other participants. You will be held not to a perfect standard, but to our typical levels of performance, including average frequencies of illness, emergencies, exams / study sessions, car problems, etc.
 - If anything you do is a problem for the team in any way, particularly outlier behavior on session attendance and hours, you'll be asked to change. If you've been asked to change continued participation will be conditional in you doing so.
 - You are required to professionally staff your assigned sessions and be responsive to the needs of the team including:
 - Quickly (preferably <30 min, but certainly within 2 hours) respond to all communications from the Team Leader requesting a response, with occasional lapses for unusual conditions/reasons tolerated (<20% of the time)
 - Move session time when requested (within your window of availability) most (80% of the time) of the time when requested;
 - Offer at least 10 potential session slots in your schedule (each 2.5 hours, based on our typical slots of 10:30a-1pm, 1:30-4pm, 4:30-7pm, and 7:30-10pm), and accept reassignment of your session time if asked during those times most of the time (>80% of the time), but at minimum at least once every other week.
 - Give immediate warnings of potential and actual conflicts/cancelations, as well as any need to end early.
 - At minimum, cancel >3 hours prior, or your session will be considered a "late cancelation".
 - If you attempt to shorten you session >15 min, either by arriving later or leaving early, the Team Leader may choose to replace you for that session, and you will have de facto forfeited that session by being unable to staff it for the agreed upon time. We are not obliged to help you to make up session time you vacate (by our definition) by early departures or late arrivals.
 - Arrive on-time (within 5 min of start time) most (80%) of the time;
 - Call or text notice of any late arrivals exceeding 10 minutes;
 - Maintain and monitor all 3 modes of communication (phone, text, email) frequently:
 - phone and text must be monitored every 1-2 hrs at minimum (preferably every 30 min), and more frequently during an exchange (if we're conversing every 5-15 min would be acceptable intervals), and email at least once a day, again, unless instructed by text/call to look at your email, or during an exchange, in which case the same frequency as phone/text is the standard (every 5-15 min).
 - You will be believed to have been contacted and be responsible for content communicated unless and until we hear from you that you can't.
 - For example, if your phone breaks, ask to use your roommates phone to notify us,

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- Inform us of how you want to be contacted alternatively – e.g. the roommate’s phone, email, Facebook messaging, etc. until corrected.
 - Note that free Wi-Fi is available at Whole Foods, Starbucks, most likely your university libraries and buildings, and many other public places, so your email can work from your laptop without your phone. Some apps can enable your ipad or laptop to text a phone.
 - You’re expected to keep another copy of our phone and email info (preferably a hard copy) to contact us if your phone is lost.
 - Don’t come sick.
 - Give notice of all health conditions that may affect your performance, safety, and have the possibility of infecting my child or others in the program, including those “being treated”, prior to participating in our program and immediately throughout.
 - For example, seizures may mean you could injure our child or be unable to supervise, and MS is potentially caused by an infectious herpes strain.
 - The Team Leader will determine whether or not your condition merits removal from the program temporarily or permanently.
 - You and the Team Leader will together determine if symptoms of a communicable illness are past, don’t just decide on your own and withhold information.
 - Failing to disclose an illness is a serious issue falling under the misrepresentation / trustworthiness issue appearing later in this list, and could have serious consequences.
 - If your health issue is considered to be infectious or serious enough, you will be considered temporarily suspended until cleared for return by the Team Leader, meaning all your sessions will be subbed out to alternates.
 - Non-infectious and passing issues like headaches and period cramps don’t require temporary suspension, so do expect to come to your next session or notify me if your headache, cramps, etc. continue.
 - You are required to complete assignments given by the Instructor.
 - You are required to enthusiastically learn the program principles and apply them.
 - You are required to sign a release of your publicity rights to any video, photos, recordings or any other electronic media, as well as stories arising from your participation in our program. This means you release all ownership to your electronic images and recordings of all types, as well as stories of your experiences, to us. This means all recordings of what happens here and is recorded electronically or otherwise, can be used in any way and in any media without your permission or reimbursement.
 - You must return all course materials (books, CDs) and any borrowed property of any other kind to our facility at the end of the internship in order to receive a passing grade. Your internship will be considered incomplete unless property is either returned or paid for, if you want to keep it.
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- COMMON PROBLEMS:
 - The following problems will be typically be given 1 warning (although possibly more if they are infrequent and your contributions are otherwise strong), then result in

progressive loss of regular sessions and/or switch to alternate status with no guarantee of session hours if they continue to occur. Typically these can be tolerated once every 2-4 weeks from otherwise strong team participants. If your development is slow or you have multiple issues with the below items, they will “stack up” and put your participation here at risk quicker:

- Arriving >10 min late for more than 1 session/week;
- Failure to give prior notice of late (>10 min) arrival more than once a week;
- Last minute (within 3 hours of start time) requests to shorten agreed session time or cancel/move session time, more than once every 2 weeks;
- Last-minute (within 3 hours of start time) cancelations that were foreseeable (for example, notifying us an hour before your session when you’ve been sick since last night and could have called then);
- Canceling more than one session a week for more than 2 weeks regardless of reason:
- Excessive delay in contacting us (>20 min after your session start time) during a late arrival. If you don’t inform us that you are coming and sufficiently explain why you’re so late prior to 20 minutes after start time, you will have considered to have vacated your session. While you may arrive and find us here able to accommodate your session, other possibilities include:
 - Efforts to replace you begin at 15-20 min after your session start time, if we don’t know you’re coming or if the late timing poses problems. Anyone who agrees to replace you last minute that we called before hearing from you at 15-20 min late, will take your session even if you show up, and you will be sent home. You may get to stay until they arrive, though, and if you’re paid you can get paid for the time until they arrive. This allows both us and them not to be inconvenienced trying to move on while you were not considerate enough to tell us what was happening.
 - We might leave the premises for other activities so your session may no longer be available to you. We are not responsible for you making up sessions you have vacated in such a manner.
- Failure to respond in a timely manner (<1-2 hours) to time-sensitive communications from Team Leader such as session openings more than once a week, unless safety or other conditions preclude it (like during taking a test, or while swimming in a pool).
- Severe under-responsiveness: If I don’t hear from you within 6 hours of a time-sensitive communication, the following steps may be taken in order to allow the team to function:
 - You may be removed from your scheduled session on that day or other days, even sessions unrelated to the one being discussed.
 - If your lack of responsiveness impedes the team’s ability to rearrange sessions involving yours, and absent knowing your availability, we may give your session(s) away to someone who it confirmed to have availability at the time we want to move you.
 - If in the Team Leader’s discretion your late response indicates uncertainty that you will attend any of your other sessions, which includes considering your past behavior, you may be suspended until you explain you get back in contact and assure us you’re coming.

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- It's not acceptable to our team to indicate "Not available" by not responding (it only takes around 15 seconds to do so), and making us all wait on you and be inconvenienced.
 - Inflexibility: Failure to move and rearrange session times within agreed upon availability windows with ease and with a supportive attitude or when requested, and the majority of the time when asked. Failure to move most of the time when asked from a position of ease, as if this is a problem, will be itself a problem. People who say they want only their session time and effectively are not alternates are not welcome on this team and will be removed quickly.
 - Potential availability drops below 10 sessions/week, as determined by consistent failure to accept offered alternate slots during your 10 proposed available slots.
 - Even if you're only doing 2-3 sessions/week, you still need to cover for other people at least once every 2 weeks, and offer a total of 10 available session slots (each 2.5 hrs) in your schedule.
 - Functional reduction in availability – meaning you don't accept any of the alternate spots offered for two weeks in your supposedly available potential session times, means you effectively change your availability to NOT include that time slot any more, which may lead to your removal from the team and problems completing your internship.
 - Arriving in any way unprepared for work more than once a month, which amounts to a severely last-minute cancelation;
 - Gaps in supervision of our daughter such as but not limited to:
 - Falling asleep during your session;
 - Allowing Anna to be unsupervised by not staying with her;
 - Engaging in an activity that could be dangerous.
 - A "no call/no show" – where a student doesn't show and doesn't give prior notice by any means of not coming.
- **GROUNDS FOR IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OR DISMISSAL:**
 - The following are more serious and may result in immediate removal from our team without prior warning:
 - Engaging (or suspicion of engaging) in any activity showing serious lapse of judgment either regarding appropriateness, safety, or trustworthiness, as solely determined by the Team Leader. This includes anything that would make you less trustworthy being left with our child or unsupervised in our home, including but not limited to:
 - Showing up appearing to be intoxicated or with items used to be intoxicated, such a drink that smells like alcohol;
 - Smoking or engaging any other behavior not considered healthy or appropriate for minors in our apartment or building.
 - Actual or suspected theft;
 - Leaving our child unattended, such as leaving the apartment during your session without someone else watching her;
 - Inviting or allowing any unauthorized person to enter our apartment building or unit;
 - Misrepresentations of any kind, including but not limited to:
 - Covering up an illness;
 - Falsifying why you are missing or needing to change session times;

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- Snooping anywhere considered off-limits to our program, such as the master bedroom/bathroom, or looking in drawers not related to looking for items for your session;
- Falsifying expenses to us;
- Falsifying facts about what happened even if innocuous, such as what happened during your session;
- Insubordination, such as even a single “eye roll” or “frustrated sigh”, attempting to correct or criticize the team leader from an attitude of judgment and self-righteousness, refusal to do what is asked, acting like what is being asked is a burden, etc. (note that constructive criticism made from an attitude of support, helpfulness, in order to solve a problem, is still not just accepted, it’s encouraged);
- Volatile temper or other poorly controlled or volatile or emotions;
- Causing any problems with our building management, other tenants or other team members;
- Affiliation in any way with violence, illegality, inappropriate behavior, substance abuse, affiliation with organizations espousing illegality or violence, etc. including online posts, even when not here.

Additionally, I release all publicity and intellectual property rights associated with and arising from my participation in this program. All stories involving my participation, as well as any electronic recordings or my image or sounds will be the exclusive and unlimited property of the Team Leader, and may be reproduced in any media – spoken, written, auditory, video, online, or any other means of transmission, without limit or interference by me, and with no remuneration. This total release of my publicity rights, rights of ownership, and intellectual property rights relating to my experience in this program is in perpetuity, and anywhere in the universe, and will be understood to extend to any forms of media that are not yet existing but are used alternatively to communicate my image, recordings and experiences participating in this program.

This release will apply to all experiences at any time at this program, past, present or future. It will also apply to any locations or venues, such as if I participate remotely in a video conference such as Skype or a phone call, and that signal is transmitted to the physical location, website, or any property such as the phone, laptop, internet service, etc. owned by the Team Leader or at the property, and she chooses to record and re-transmit it, as well as if I encounter the Team Leader, subject child(ren), family members, other team members and/or friends of the Team Leader off-site, such as at the grocery store, walking down the sidewalk, or at the waterfront.

I agree to these terms.

Program Participant Name: _____ Date: _____

Program Participant Signature: _____