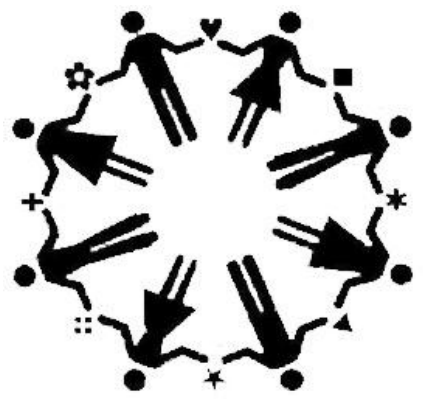


Featured internship in the Department of Sociology / Anthropology



Intern: Rachel Diaz

**Placement: James Burd Elementary
School, Shippensburg, PA**

Website:

http://www.edline.net/pages/James_Burd_ES



My internship at James Burd Elementary School was very rewarding and the experience I gained was invaluable. As a Sociology major at Shippensburg University, I was given the opportunity to complete nine credits in internships. My concentration was in human relations and I had a passion for working with children. I have career aspirations to work in human services so I decided to gain experience in observing and interacting with elementary age students in a school setting. During my two internships I worked in a kindergarten classroom, in which I spent an equal amount of time working with the teacher and her students. At first, my focus was developing a relationship with the teacher and her students, and over time that relationship enabled me to build a trusting bond that allowed the children to interact with one another and with me in a manner that made them feel comfortable, as if I were a part of their classroom. My daily tasks included working with students individually with their alphabet and number recognition, assisting in lesson planning, classroom organization, and participating in classroom activities. Through my engagement with the children I was able to apply concepts that related to Sociology like gender socialization, acquisition and application of social norms, and the use of tracking of students through various testing and assessments. This experience has encouraged me to explore more opportunities within the human services field.