Field Experience Worksheet

All MSCI majors are required to engage in a minimum of a three week, full-time field research experience. Many students choose to fulfill this requirement by taking MSCI 460, offered every spring – but many other possibilities exist! Alternatives may include semester or summer internships, Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs), faculty-sponsored field research or cruises, or some study abroad opportunities.

Please complete the following questions to help us determine whether a particular alternative might satisfy the field experience requirement, and return the completed form to the Undergraduate Student Services Office in PSC 108. The Undergraduate Director will review your request; however, final credit is based on completion of the research and approval by the Dean’s office.

Note: students electing not to take MSCI 460 must write a 2-3 page summary after their experience, detailing research methods, hypotheses and conclusions, and data analysis techniques. This paper must be submitted to the Undergraduate Director before the fieldwork requirement will be considered fulfilled.

1. What is the name, location, and sponsoring organization of alternative program or course? Attach course information if possible. (Note: if you are traveling outside the US, you will need to register with the Study Abroad Office, even if you’re not receiving academic credit for the experience.)

2. What is the duration of the experience? How many total hours or days will be spent conducting research or fieldwork?

3. Please provide a 1-2 sentence summary of the experience. Will you be outside? Will you be getting wet and dirty? Will you be directly taking samples and/or doing research?

4. How does this experience relate to your career goals?