



# Internship Workshop

## “Find Your Path with Soc 494 or Soc 495”

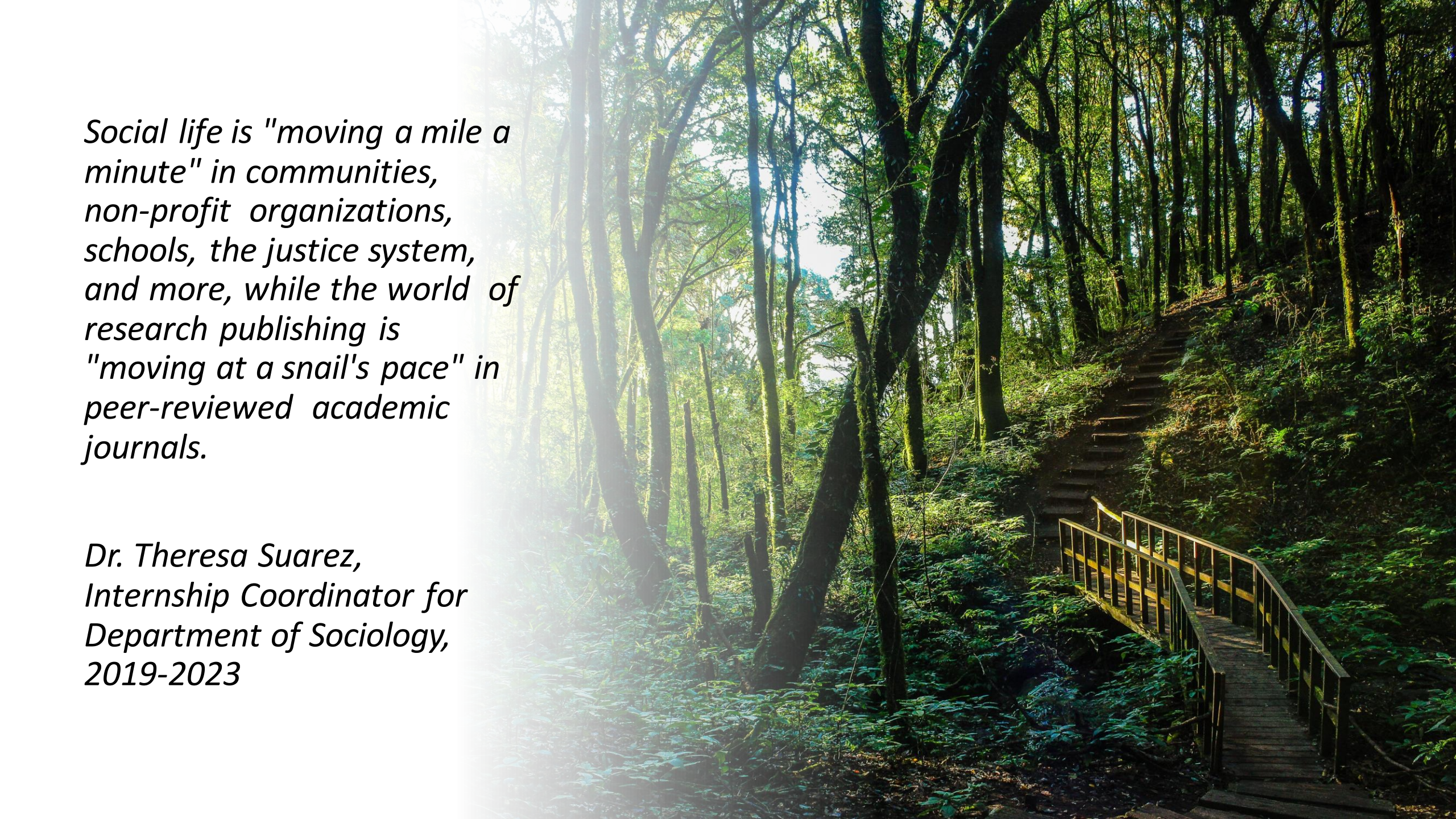
Sociology and Criminology & Justice Studies

Department of Sociology, CSUSM

Dr. Marisol Clark-Ibáñez, Internship Coordinator

**Summer & Fall 2024**





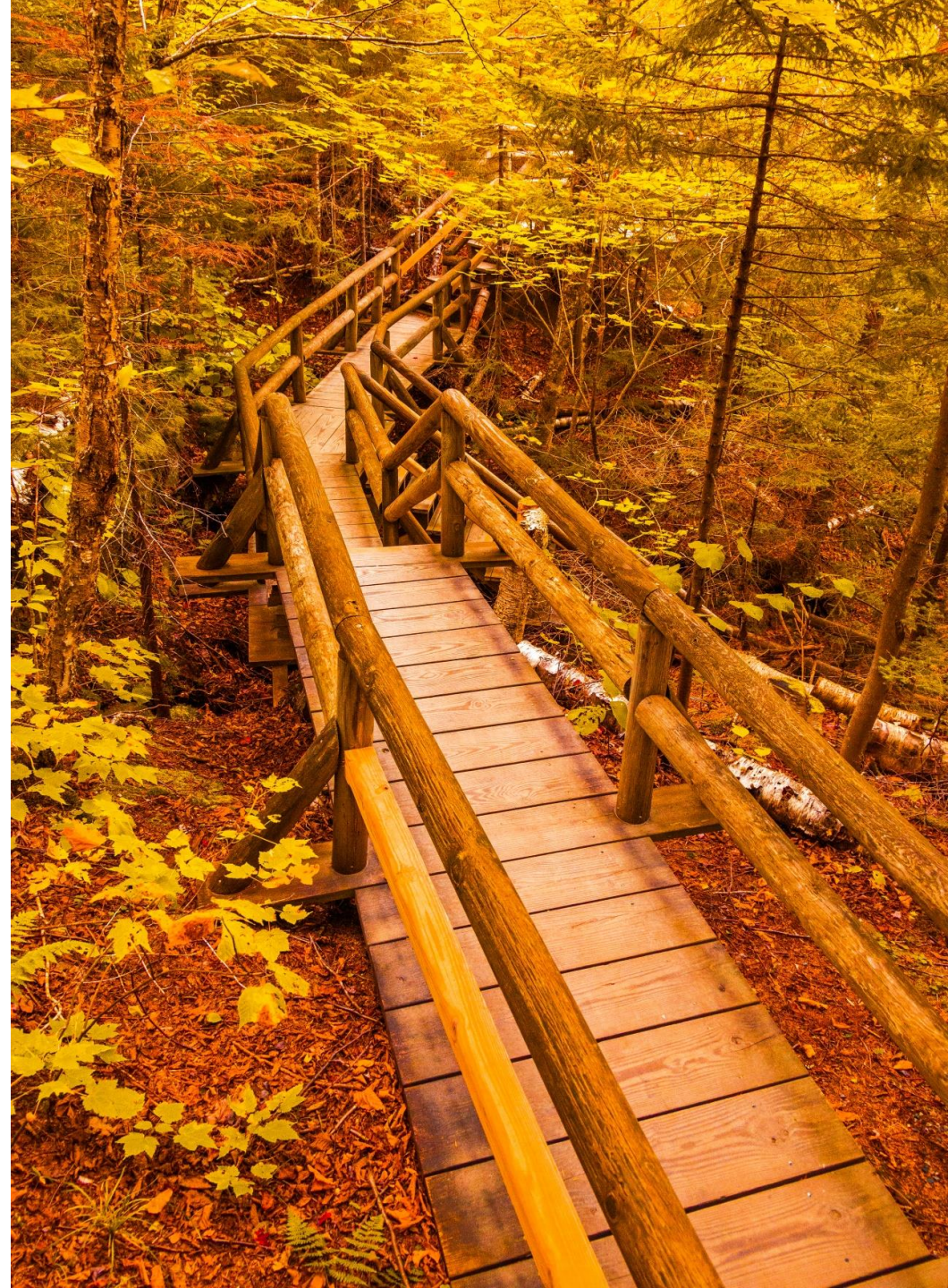
*Social life is "moving a mile a minute" in communities, non-profit organizations, schools, the justice system, and more, while the world of research publishing is "moving at a snail's pace" in peer-reviewed academic journals.*

*Dr. Theresa Suarez,  
Internship Coordinator for  
Department of Sociology,  
2019-2023*



# IMPORTANT TO NOTE

- Enroll in the internship class as soon as your degree planner indicates, which ideally is your senior year or within last two semesters before graduation.
- You don't need an internship placement to enroll in the class.
- There is **no placement service** to put you into an internship.
- **Students find their own internships.**
  - See Department of Sociology internship webpage for ideas!
  - Visit the CSUSM Internship Database for opportunities.
- CJS majors **must** have the internship class to graduate (Soc 494 or Soc 495).





# Why take an internship class?

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- It's required for CJS and a capstone option for SOC.
  - Soc 494 (CJS) and Soc 495 (Soc)
  - Fall, Spring, and Summer offerings
- Great way to test out career ideas and options
- Can be an avenue to a job or career track post-graduation
- Other possible benefits:
  - Letter of reference from supervisor (practitioner)
  - Experience to use for graduate school (e.g., Social Work, Teaching)





# Why is it called a capstone class?

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- “Cap off” your degree with special seminar.
  - Sociology majors have the choice to take Soc 495 **or** Soc 480.
- Soc 494 or Soc 495 allows you to interact in a specific social world (internship) while engaging in scholarly ideas in seminar (class).
- You will show of your scholarly knowledge and interweave it with your observations and insights from your internship.



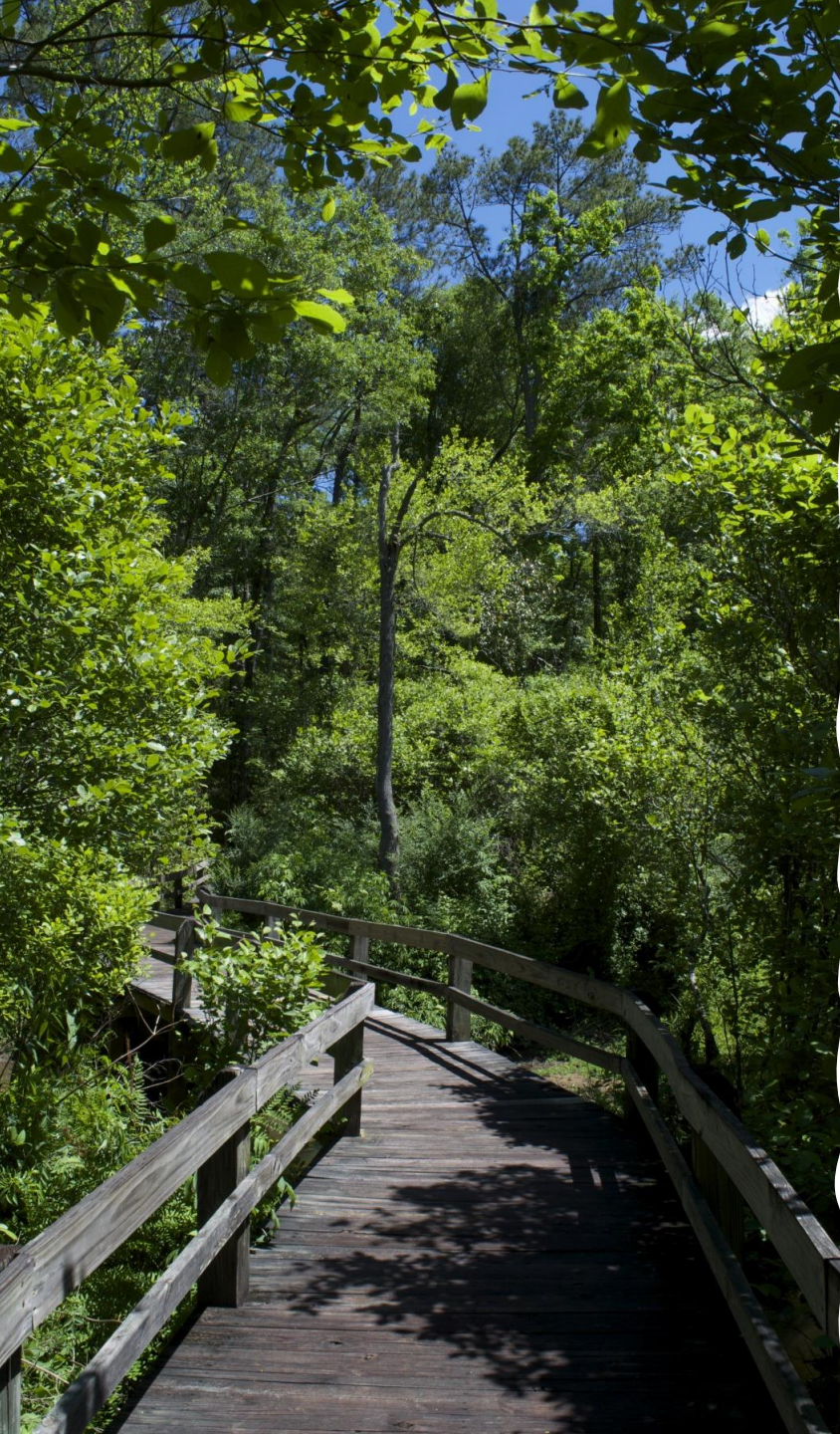
# What is involved in finding an internship?

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- Timing:
  - Plan to spend a month or more before you start your internship semester finding an internship.
  - Law enforcement and some schools require extensive background checks.
    - Start 6 months before the internship semester begins!
- Sites:
  - The CSUSM has a database for academic internships for you to search.
  - Your professor likely has identified some appropriate sites
  - Sites MUST be in the database for you to use them for Soc 494 or Soc 495.
  - If you have a site in mind and not in the database, there is a separate and potentially long process to get them approved. See me asap for next steps!!







# How do you apply for an internship?

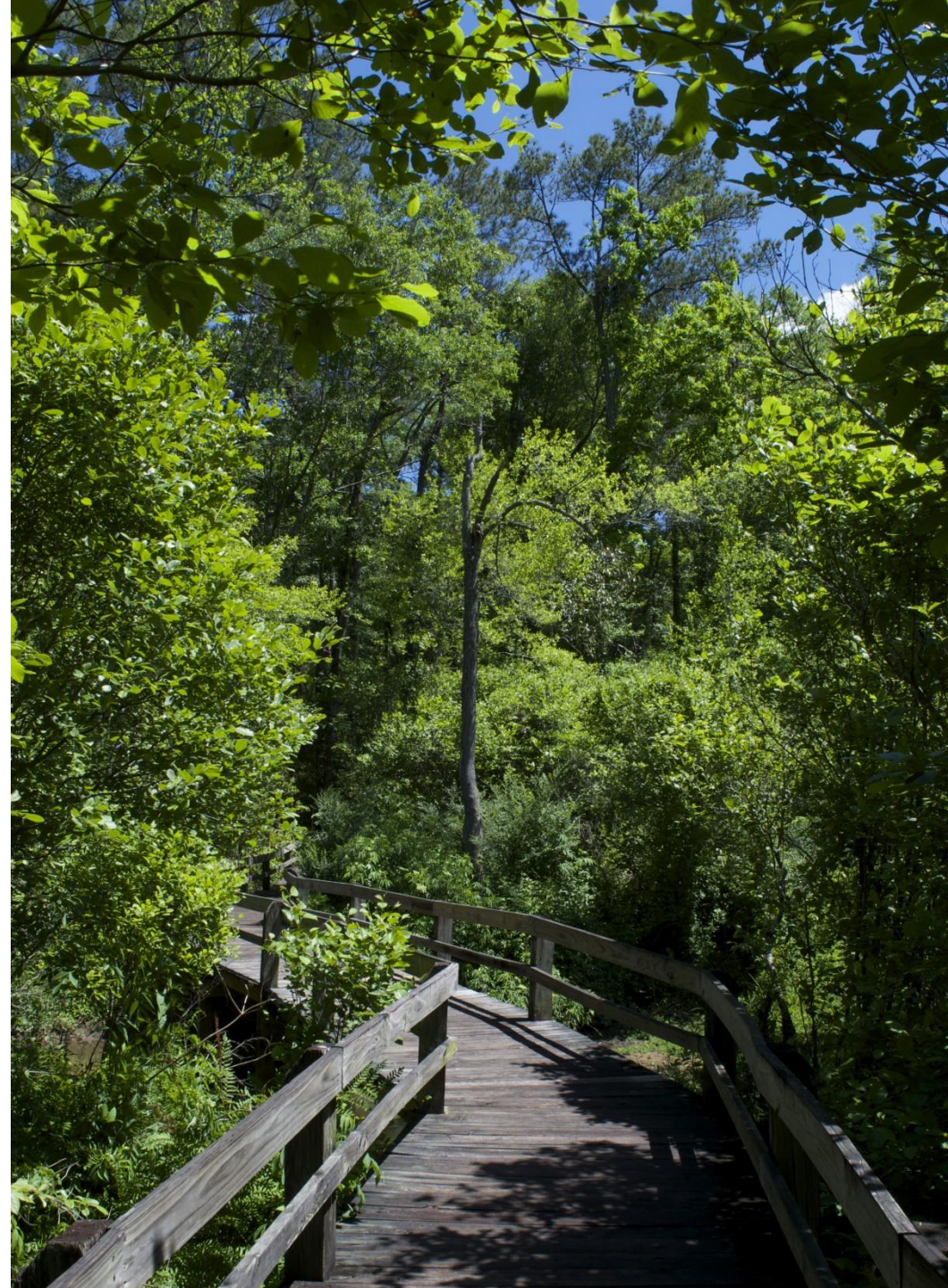
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- You will apply to the site's internship like you would a job.
- Review your resume and have it ready.
- Prepare for an interview.
- Work on a cover letter and/or introduction email.
- Identify references (professors, professionals, community members).
- CSUSM Career Center has awesome resources and counselors to help you prepare!



## *What about finding an internship out of the area?*

- The CSUSM database has a feature to find “remote” internships.
- Work closely with the CSUSM Career Center to identify a potential site for “in person.”





# What are some logistics once I have an internship?

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- Devote time in your week to the internship
  - Right now, minimum or maximum hours are flexible, but your site may have minimum hours.
  - You also go to internship class.
- Most internships are volunteer.
- You likely will have a supervisor and work with other staff.
- **PAID opportunities** (at least minimum wage) no longer require an agreement with the university.
- Doing an internship within the job you already have *might* be possible – check in with your professor.







# What if I cannot find an internship?

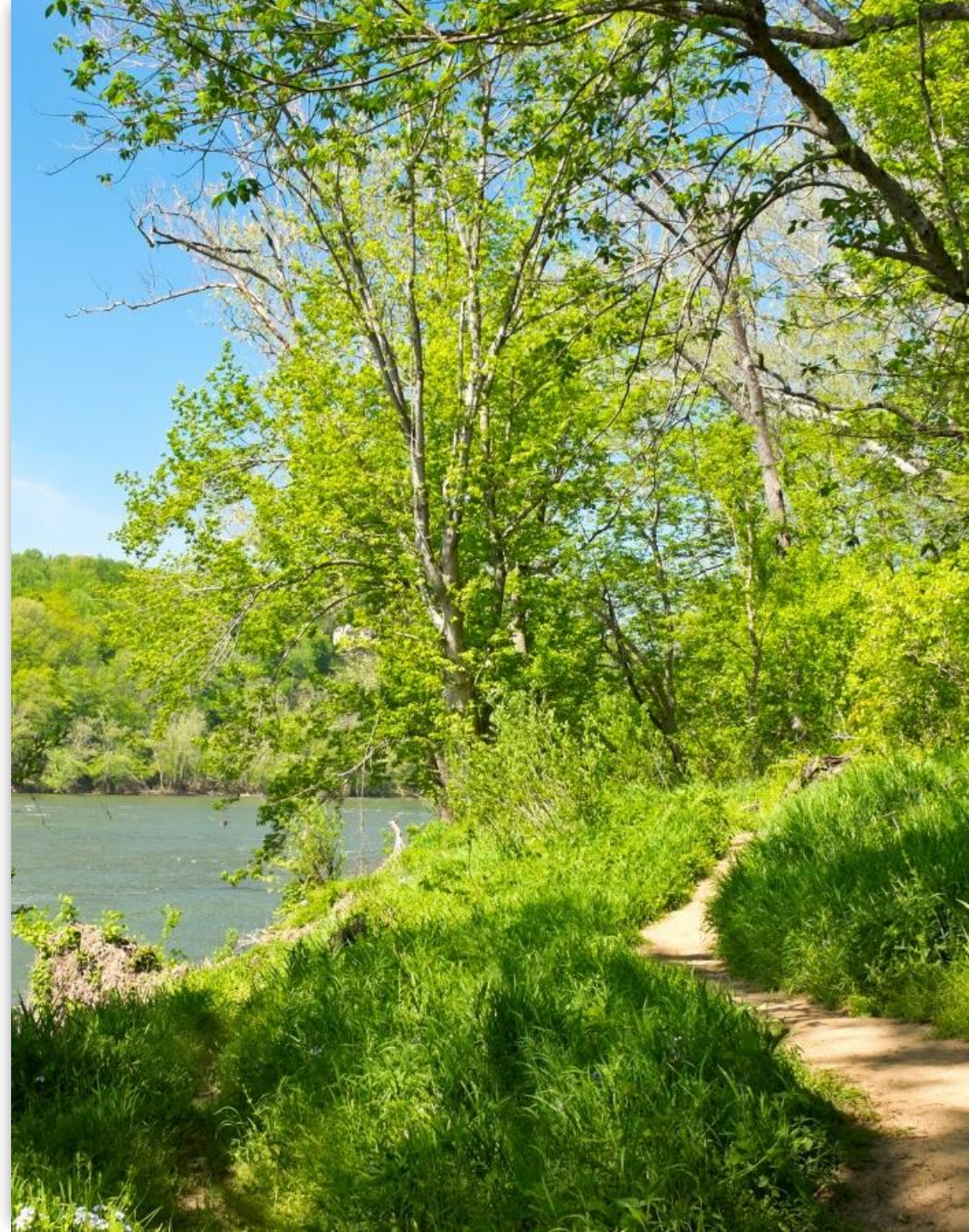
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- If you are a CJS major, you need to take the internship class.
- Enroll in your class as soon as your degree planner indicates.
- Contact internship coordinator.
- Contact your professor once enrolled.



# What is the internship class like?

- Attend class and do your internship hours
- Share about internship through class discussion and written reports
- Each capstone course is taught by faculty with varying perspectives and assignments
- *All classes should require a cumulative CAPSTONE PROJECT at the end of the semester.*
- Regular graded work due: assignments, reflections, and discussions

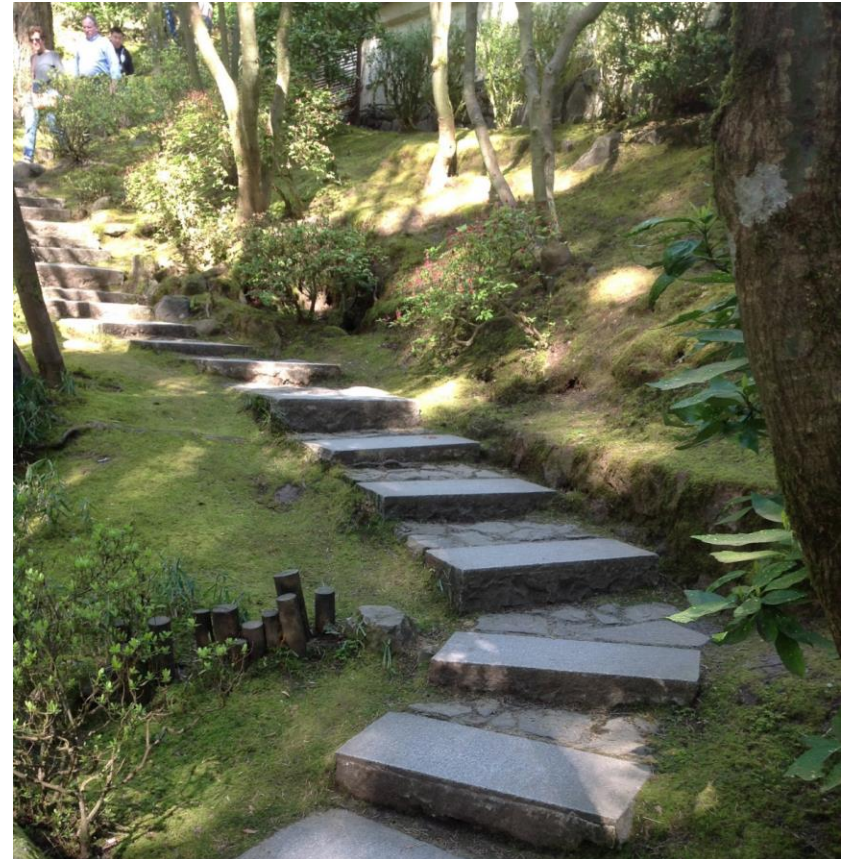




# Who can I get help from?

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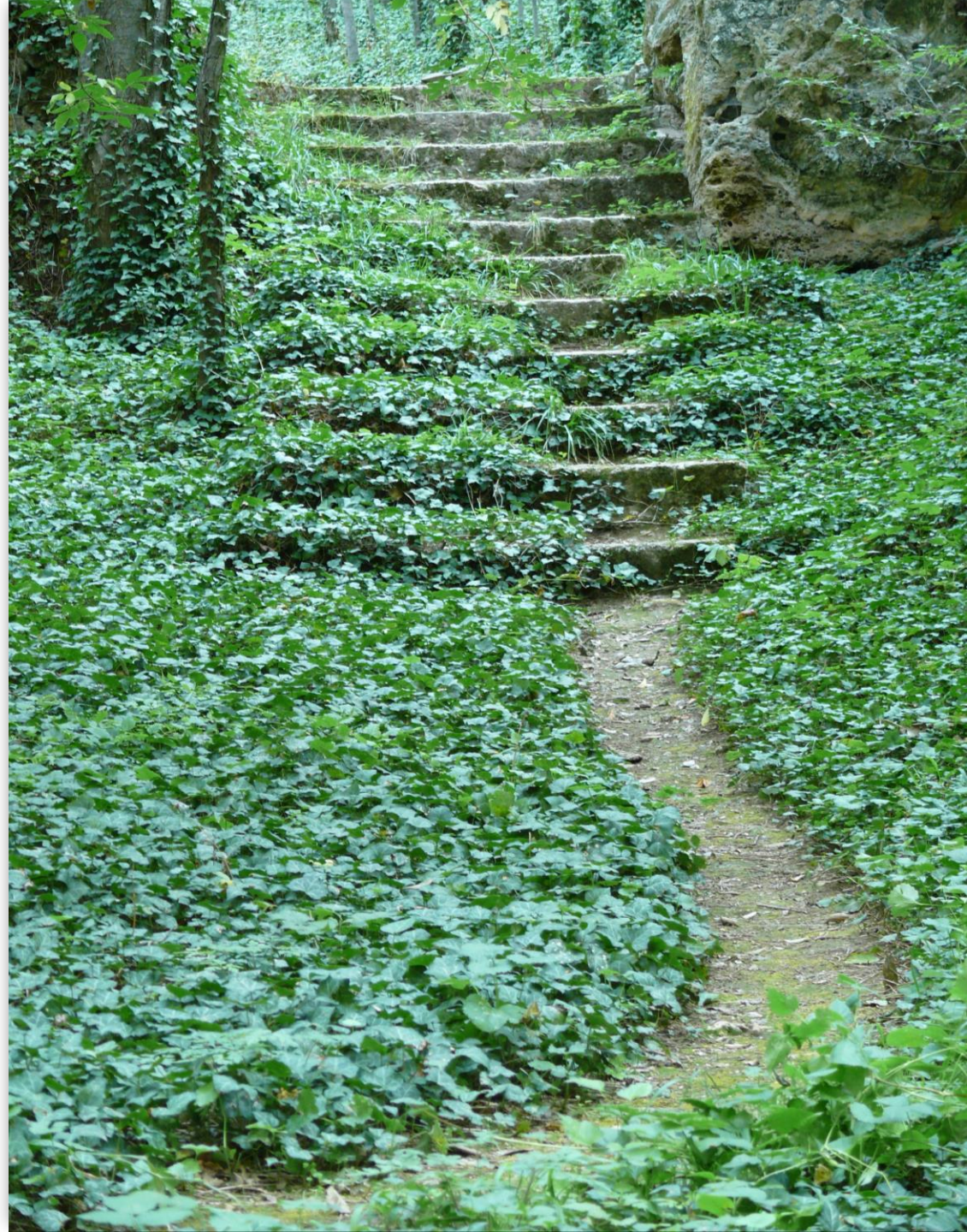
- CSUSM Career Center Academic Internship Director
- Department Internship Coordinator (MCI)
  - Helping students with questions before they enroll in the course.
  - Helping the internship faculty with their courses as needed.
  - Helping navigate the CSUSM process for both students and professors.
  - Work with career center on successful internship experiences and review data about internships for our majors.
- Your Soc 494 or Soc 495 professor
  - Before the semester starts, your professor may not be available to help.
  - Once the semester starts, you will work with your professor.





# CSUSM Career Center - Internship Office

- Monica Gillie – Internship Coordinator for CSUSM
  - [internships@csusm.edu](mailto:internships@csusm.edu)
  - 760-750- 7005
  - Teams
- Homepage:
  - <https://www.csusm.edu/careers/internships/students/index.html>
- Tutorial for students seeking academic internships:
  - [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wldbx9bfZ3LrF\\_hTC42VclwDY7oje9fb/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wldbx9bfZ3LrF_hTC42VclwDY7oje9fb/view?usp=sharing)







## Soc 491 offered each semester!

- 1 unit career readiness class
- Explore career options through assessments
- Build your social network
- Create items needed for job search
- Learn about graduate school processes and possibilities