STUDENT INTERN FAQ
Communication, Journalism and Philosophy

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to find my own internship?

Yes. FGCU Eagle Career Network lists opportunities for students. Career Fairs and LinkedIn are other valuable resources. Part of the internship experience is learning how to land a job by networking, seeking out opportunities, applying, and interviewing.

Where do I begin?

A good place to start is to research career paths that interest you. Then use campus resources to ensure your resume is employer-ready before submitting any applications. Career Development Services has sample resumes online and career advisors ready to meet with you.

Can I receive academic credit for a paid internship?

Yes. Paid internships are strongly encouraged. The National Association of Colleges & Employers indicates that paid interns receive up to 50% more job offers, however, unpaid experiences can give you "career capital," as your first job after graduation may come with a higher starting salary because of your internship experience.

Can I earn credit for an internship I did in the past?

No. Academic internship courses are designed to run simultaneously with your internship.

Can I use my current job as an internship?

No. The academic internship must be a new learning experience. If you are already working in an organization that is closely related to your career path or major, an internship may be approved for academic credit on a case-by-case basis if the internship goals and activities are substantially different from your normal job responsibilities.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS, CONTINUED

Why can't I register for the Internship course myself?

You cannot register yourself. Internship course enrollment will be authorized by the Internship Coordinator and overrides granted once a completed internship agreement and registration form is received and the internship site is approved. Please refer to the Internship Agreement & Registration for more details.

Can I intern for a family member?

No. Students are allowed to intern at the same company as a family member, but that person cannot be their supervisor. Students earn academic credit and a component of the internship grade is based upon evaluations by the internship supervisor, posing a conflict of interest if the supervisor were a family member. Additionally, internships provide an opportunity to go through the application and interview process, similar to a future job search experience, and learn more about a typical employer/employee relationship.

Can another student be my internship supervisor?

No. Interns must be supervised by an experienced professional in the field.

Can I begin an internship mid-semester?

Do not pass up a great career opportunity just because it doesn't align within the dates of the semester. Schedule an appointment with your Internship Coordinator to discuss options.

Can I participate in a remote internship or one outside of the local area (in-state, out-of-state, international)?

Yes. Coursework for internship courses is completed on Canvas and Eagle Career Network, so you can intern from anywhere - in-person, hybrid or remote. However, your internship will still need to be approved by your Internship Coordinator to enroll in the course.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS, CONTINUED

I completed the Internship course previously and want to continue as an intern at the same organization. Can I receive additional academic credit if I work additional hours as an intern?

Yes. By continuing an internship at the same organization for academic credit, you acknowledge that you will complete all course components again and participate in a new project with new learning objectives. Submitting work that has been submitted, in whole or in part, from a previous course is a violation of the FGCU Student Code of Conduct, refer to the Standards Related to Academic Integrity section for more information.

Can I use an internship for service learning hours?

No. Internship hours may not apply towards service learning.

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