Master of Museum Studies Internship 2014

The Internship is one of the most meaningful experiences offered to students in the Master of Museum Studies program at the Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. Our students have made significant contributions to the activities of the organizations in which they have worked.

Introducing the Internship

» The internship is an integral part of the Master of Museum Studies professional program.

» The 12-week internship placement in a museum or cultural institution, typically from May through July, enables students to apply their knowledge, expertise, and skills.

» Students come from various backgrounds and look for an internship related to their own academic and career development.

Hosting the Internship

» During the past 40 years, students have held internships in a wide variety of museums, galleries, and cultural heritage locations throughout Canada, the United States, the UK, Europe, Russia, Australia, South Africa, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Central America.

» Students have worked in a range of museums and related arts and heritage institutions, government or non-profit organizations, and consulting companies.

» An internship project can be in one or more departments, but usually within one cultural institution.

Creating the Internship

» Students proactively seek out and approach potential host institutions and Supervisors.

» The Internship Course Instructor and students work together to match educational and career objectives to the activities and needs of the host institutions.

» Students negotiate their internship with the host institutions in collaboration with the Instructor, supported by the many other faculty, advisors, and colleagues in Toronto and internationally.

» When an internship is suitable, the host Supervisor drafts a job description with the Instructor and signs a final agreement.

Past Internship positions:

» Accessible Programs Intern
» Adult Education Training Intern
» Culture, Arts and Innovation Intern
» Curatorial and Collections Management Assistant
» Educational Program Officer
» Exhibitions Intern
» Historical Interpreter and Event Facilitator Intern
» Professional Development Program Assistant
» Research and Curatorial Assistant
» Social Media and Visitor Studies Intern
» Technician, European Collection
» Visitor Experience and Audience Insight Intern
Organizing the Internship

» The internship course occurs between the first and second year of the 18-month Master’s curriculum.

» It includes a planning phase (January - April), the core work placement (May - July) and a post-internship reporting and presenting time (August - September).

» The Internship is 12 consecutive weeks, spent in a full-time placement at the host institution.

» By the beginning of April, students need to confirm an internship placement, a project, a task list, and sign a final letter of agreement.

Evaluating the Internship

» During the Internship period, interns write regular progress reports to the Instructor, which critically reflect on their work in the context of overall learning objectives, anticipated outcomes, and applied professional development.

» The Instructor will either do a site visit, if interns are in the Greater Toronto Area, or organize phone or web meetings to discuss progress.

» The host Supervisor completes a Host Institution Supervisor Assessment Form at the end of the internship.

» The culmination of the Internship experience is a presentation event in September, 2014. We invite all host Supervisors to join us in the celebration!

Funding the Internship

» Limited internship funding is available via endowed funds generously provided by the Vivian and David Campbell Summer Training Fellowships, and the Rebanks Family Fellowships.

» Students can actively seek internship opportunities where they can receive an honorarium, stipend, or incentive, or apply for a paid internship from a museum, cultural or heritage institution, or government agency.

If you have questions, please contact us:
museum.internship@utoronto.ca

For more information, visit:
ischool.utoronto.ca/internships-host