MTSU ACADEMIC INTERNSHIPS

Department: Speech and Theatre

Majors Served by Internship Program: Speech and Theatre major, Communication Studies concentration

Primary Contact for Program:

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Internship Website: “www.mtsu.edu/commstudies/academic.php” under “courses”

Are Internships Paid, Unpaid, or Both? Both

What Are the Requirements for Awarding Credit? (Term paper, number of hours, project, etc.):

- Each hour of academic credit is equivalent to 40 internship hours.
- Both the student intern and the work supervisor must complete their individual evaluation forms one week before the end of the semester. Student interns provide a one page reaction paper at midterm and a three page paper at the end of the semester. The final paper focuses on goals accomplished, what was learned, how those insights will be applied to their future career, and how they will describe the experience on their vita.

Student Requirements to Participate in Program: Comm Studies or ORCO student. Students are juniors or seniors in my experience. The Internship Agreement form is necessary for registration in COMM 4900. It contains basic contact information, hours to be worked per week and examples of work to be done. The form requires approvals by the work supervisor, the student's advisor and internship coordinator. It must be filed by the date indicated on the form, usually the last day to register or add a class without a drop/add form.

Is a course offered to prepare students for internships? No

If “yes,” is the course required in order to participate in the program? No Answer

Does the Program post “active” or currently open positions for employers to hire students? No

Does the program provide lists of employers who have previously hosted interns that students can contact? No

How do you provide information to students on internship opportunities? EXL website, Lightning JobSource through the Career Development Center, Departmental web site

Does the program require employers/supervisors evaluation of student intern? Yes

Does the program have a faculty or staff member visit each student and supervisor in the workplace? No

Other important information:
I have been coordinating this program for our area for this past year. I intend to begin visiting sites this coming year. I have a 7 page handout for students that provides the information above and more. We provide a definition and expectations for the internship and its work assignments.

Not enough space above, but the midterm report includes a work hour log and their work assignments and tasks and their interactions with company/organizational personnel.