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Why Choose an Internship?

Internships allow students to apply classroom learning to the workplace. The goal of an internship is to better prepare students for careers with professional experience, networking, and developing skills while discovering likes and dislikes for potential career paths.

What Are The Benefits of an Internship?

- Gain Valuable Work Experience
- Explore a Career Path
- Give Yourself an Edge in the Job Market
- Develop and Refine Skills
- Network with Professionals in the Field
- Gain Confidence
- Strengthen Your Resume
- Transition into a Job
What Are The Statistics of Success for Interns?

- You are 52% more likely to receive a full-time job if you have paid internship experience as opposed to unpaid internships.
- Working an internship will give you a 70% higher chance of working with that particular company once the internship ends.
- Those who have had internship experience also are 15% less likely to be unemployed post-graduation.
- Individuals who’ve internship experience also make 6% more than those who don’t.

1.17
The average job offers to graduating seniors with internship experience.

0.98
The average job offers to graduating seniors without internship experience.

Sources: “Finances Online” and “Thrive My Way”
What Do Previous Interns Have to Say?

“My time as an intern was very beneficial to me not only as a person, but also as a professional. It allowed me to work on independent tasks, apply what I learned from my Communication Studies courses to real-life tasks, and helped by preparing me for life after college. When I was interviewing with companies, I was able to refer back to my time as an intern many times. It helped me land my current position with a company that I love. I think the internship helped me land my current job because it gave me confidence and experience as a professional.”

- Haley, 2022 Graduate

“I am thankful for the opportunity to have earned credit toward my degree while getting hands-on experience in my field. During my internship, I had the experience of working directly with an MTSU Communication Studies alumni, who shared with me all things related to marketing, communication, and organizational life. It was inspiring to witness someone successful in my desired field who had once been in my shoes. My internship taught me that with hard work, I can utilize my degree and be like my mentor one day.”

- Kristen, 2023 Graduate
How Can I Earn Course Credit for an Internship?

Students who want to complete an internship register for COMM 4900. Students can earn three credits towards their degree for working 120 hours at an internship while gaining work experience.

The requirements to earn internship credit and sign up for the class:
- Maintain a 2.5 overall GPA and be a standing junior
- Find an internship; opportunities are advertised throughout the academic year on department social media pages, the newsletter, and by email. Additional internship opportunities can be found in the following section.
- Complete the “Internship Agreement Form” (found on the MTSU Communication Studies website) and submit it to Dr. Priddis via email (dee.priddis@mtsu.edu)
- Dr. Priddis will give the student permission to register for COMM 4900 if the internship meetings the requirements (allows the student to work at least 120 hours over the course of the term).

Students enrolled in COMM 4900 will be expected to:
- Log Hours
- Participate in Discussion Posts
- Submit Weekly Journals
- Build Resume with MTSU’s Career Development Center
- Submit Student Evaluation
- Submit Supervisor’s Evaluation
What Internship Opportunities are Available?

The following organizations offer internships to Communication Studies students. Additional internships can be found on Handshake, LinkedIn, Indeed, and the Communication Studies Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/2694569910613805/.

Borderless Arts — www.borderlessartstn.org
Center For The Arts — www.boroarts.org
Chick-Fil-A — www.chick-fil-a.com/careers
First Priority of America — www.firstpriority.club
Greenhouse Ministries — www.greenhousemin.org
Harbor Entertainment — www.harbor-entertainment.com
Honor Flight of the Appalachian Highlands — www.honorflightah.org
MT Dining — www.mtsu.campusdish.com
Premise Health — www.premisehealth.com
Triumph Strategies — www.triumphstrategies.com
United Way Rutherford & Cannon Counties — www.yourlocaluw.org
Vintory — www.vintory.com

And so many more!
Who Can I Contact?

Dr. DeAnne Priddis - Internship Coordinator
Email: dee.priddis@mtsu.edu
Work Phone: (615)-904-8033
Office: Jones Hall 203

Dr. Mary Beth Asbury - Department Chair
Email: marybeth.asbury@mtsu.edu
Work Phone: (615)-898-2412
Office: Jones Hall 233

Suzi Richardson - Executive Aide
Email: suzi.richardson@mtsu.edu
Work Phone: (615)-904-8220
Office: Jones Hall 233
How Can I Get Connected?

Join fellow Communication Studies majors by following us on social media for announcements, tips, information, and entertainment!

Facebook Page: MTSU Communication Studies
Facebook Group (request to join): MTSU Comm Studies
Instagram: @mtcommstudies #mtcommstudies
TikTok: @mtcommstudies
Snapchat: mtcommstudies
LinkedIn: MTSU Department of Communication Studies