

SHORT DESCRIPTION

URBS/PLSI Internship: 603 (3 units) and 604 (1 unit)

The internship is a core course required of all Urban Studies majors. It is designed and intended to provide students the opportunity to gain meaningful work experience in their professional area(s) of interest.

The purpose of the internship is to provide students with an opportunity for professional development through real work experience. Students apply their classroom learning in a professional setting, reflect on their professional work/internship experience, and develop their professional skills further.

The internship provides students with an opportunity to develop knowledge, skills, and personal contacts which contribute to professional and career development. It allows students to assess what it is like to work in an organization/agency/office of their choice, learn about employment prospects in a particular field, obtain some critical experience that several jobs now require, establish contacts with people who could provide professional references in the future, begin to develop a network of contacts who can increase their access in specific fields of concentration, and develop professionally.

The internship is part of the academic curriculum. It is intended to supplement the "theoretical" components of the curriculum and classroom learning with learning "in the field" and "from practical experience". Academic credit for the internship is awarded on the basis of these latter, practice-based forms of learning. The course requirements include: (1) spending 12-15 hours a week in an approved internship for 12-15 weeks; and (2) enrollment in an internship seminar that meets biweekly for a 2 hour session. Students should register for both 603 and 604. Instructor consent is required. The internship course is a designated CSL (community service learning) course, which means that the 3 units of fieldwork appear on the student's transcripts as community service.