

# COMPUTING SCIENCES INTERNSHIP: CSC481 / ISC481

## DESCRIPTION

The internship opportunity in Computing Sciences is designed for the student to integrate a professional work experience with academic coursework.

## GOALS

The internship opportunity provides a framework for students to understand reflective/experiential learning and make meaningful connections among their experience, new understandings of knowledge and personal or career goals.

## OBJECTIVES

- Gain practical experience while applying academic knowledge
- Gain a better understanding of courses through hands-on application of concepts
- Learn more about a specific industry/field to aid in clarifying career goals
- Cultivate a network of contacts in the field
- Increase marketability

## REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Contract/Proposal

Prior to completing the Experiential Education Registration Form, students should establish three or four personal objectives they would like to accomplish through the internship.

### 2. Journal

Students are expected to complete a daily/weekly journal. This journal should capture the critical events of the student's experience. Experiences should include both frustrations and successes. Students should also consider what assignments they worked on, describing what skills were required, what supervision was required, and what lessons were learned in completing these assignments. Throughout the term, students should look back on the personal objectives and comment on their progress in meeting these objectives.

### 3. Reflection Paper

Students are expected to complete a thoughtful reflection of their entire internship experience. This should be a reflective assessment of the overall experience. It should draw connections with your previous academic experiences and on the job experiences. Students should address the following points in their reflection paper, as they are relevant:

#### a. Organization/Program

What are the organization's goals and mission? What is your perception of its strengths and weaknesses? What is the culture of the organization?

#### b. Learning Objectives

Describe the challenges you faced while accomplishing your personal objectives. Explain specific outcomes for each objective, including any necessary changes.

c. Personal Development

What skills did you develop during this experience? Were you challenged? Comment on the extent of your personal growth. Also comment on specific contributions you made to the organization.

d. Evaluation

Evaluate your overall experience. Did it meet your expectations? What insights into the work world have you gained from this experience? How does this experience relate to your future? Describe how this experience might be integrated into future courses.

4. Manager Evaluations

Supervisors must complete his/her evaluations of the student and the student's measurable learning objectives.