

INT 490: Internship Course Option

FALL/SPRING

Supervisor at SSA:

Email:

Office Hours:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Participating in an internship is a fundamental aspect of being an active member in today's business world. An international internship provides the added benefit of work experience in a foreign country, an attribute highly valued by employers. The primary goal of this course is that students gain professional experience in different areas, such as business, tourism, communications, and teaching, among others, in a cultural immersion context. Through participation in this internship, students will improve their Spanish language abilities while also participating in professional and social interaction in a foreign work environment.

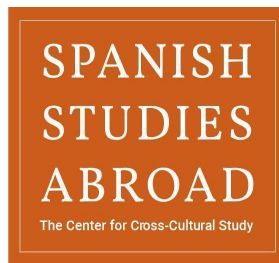
OBJECTIVES

Through both the internship work and the reflection and analysis of the experience, the student will:

- Identify the professional and personal goals they hope to achieve.
- Identify and analyze the differences in workplace culture in Spain and the United States.
- Gain practical work experience and skills toward their future professional goals.
- Complete a cumulative assessment of the internship experience, application to future goals, and overall personal development.

INSTRUCTIONAL FORMAT

This course not only gives the student professional experience, but also has an important academic component that includes: blog entries, supplemental readings, monthly meetings with the Resident Director, and a final written paper.



The student will create a blog at the beginning of the semester and post weekly entries. The topics for the blog entries and the due date will be sent by email at the beginning of the week before the deadline. Blog entries should be 300-500 words long.

The main themes for the entries are the following:

Entry #1: First personal impressions of the first days of your internship. My work responsibilities

Entry #2: The interpersonal relations between the workers/colleagues/boss.

Entry #3: What am I learning? What abilities am I developing?

Entry #4: Differences and similarities between this experience and any job or volunteer experience I had in the US before.

Entry #5: What am I contributing to the company? Do I have enough freedom to carry out any new ideas? Is the enterprise/association interested in my experience?

Students will have monthly meetings with SSA supervisor at SSA where they will discuss and respond to questions regarding their internship. Discussions will expand on the blog entry themes and supplemental readings.

Supplemental Readings

Supplemental readings will enhance the internship experience by providing context and opportunities for reflection on subjects such as intercultural interactions and workplace culture, the economic situation, trends and innovations in labor, and other topics relevant to the internship.

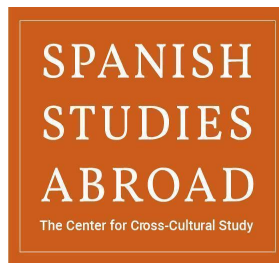
Completion and understanding of these readings will be assessed via blog entry prompts and in the monthly discussions with the Resident Director.

Weekly Logs

The weekly logs document the student's work throughout the internship program. The information provided should be as complete and accurate as possible. The logs must be signed by the on-site supervisor.

Final Paper

The students will write a final paper assessing various aspects of their internship experience. Guidelines for the final paper are provided in the appendix.



Internship Supervisor Feedback

The work component is an integral part of the internship. As such, the assessment by the internship supervisor comprises a large portion of the student's grade. The student's internship supervisor will be in direct communication with the Resident Director and will be asked to provide periodic updates and complete a final evaluation of the student's work.

REQUIREMENTS

Participation in the internship course requires a high level of dedication and responsibility from the student. You must:

- Fully comply with the agreed-upon work schedule.
- Manage your time effectively to complete blog entries, the final paper, and the coursework for your other classes.

Assessment

The final grade for the course will be determined by the following components:

- ✓ Blog entries _____ 20%
- ✓ Oral presentation _____ 15%
- ✓ Internship supervisor assessment _____ 40%
- ✓ Active participation in regular meetings _____ 10%
- ✓ Final Paper _____ 15%