The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars (TWC)

WVU Campus Liaisons

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Overview

- TWC program is 30 years old; well established and well respected
- 800 interns during the summer; 400 interns during fall and spring each
- They take all types of majors and try to match your interest.
- Receive academic credit
- Provide furnished apartments

Components

- Internship
- Leadership Forum
- Academic Course

THE WASHINGTON CENTER

Program Areas

When students are accepted by The Washington Center, they are assigned, according to their interests, to one of twelve thematically organized programs or to our Postgraduate Professional Development Program, specially designed for recent graduates or graduate students. Each program has one or more professional program advisors who counsel, place, supervise and help evaluate students, as well as organize activities for them during the day or half-day when students are not at their internships.

Advocacy, Service and Arts Program

Provides students first-hand professional experiences with many national advocacy groups, international NGOs, local charitable groups, cultural organizations, or federal service agencies.

Sample Placements - Internship sites have included

- Amnesty International,
- U.S. Commission on Civil Rights,
- Oxfam America,
- Human Rights Campaign,
- Global Health Council,
- Share our Strength,
- U.S. Commission on Civil Rights,
- Points of Light Foundation,

- Physicians for Social Responsibility,
- National Mental Health Association,
- Discovery Theatre,
- Studio Theatre,
- U.S. Department of Education,
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,

Ford Motor Company Global Scholars Program

Helps 12 international students and 12 students from the United States to acquire skills for promoting sustainable development around the world. This program combines a four-day-per-week internship with a full day of educational activities based on the United Nation's Eight Millennium Development Goals. These goals set out specific targets and corresponding indicators for: eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; achieving universal primary education; promoting gender equality and empowering women; reducing child mortality; improving maternal health; combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; ensuring environmental sustainability; and ensuring global partnerships for development. This program is sponsored by the Ford Motor Company.

International Affairs Program

Prepares students for careers in international affairs working in fields such as human rights, national security, international trade, global women's rights, refugees, conflict resolution, international development and diplomacy. Program activities feature visits to the Egyptian, Israeli, Saudi, French, Swiss, Nigerian, South African, Pakistani, Korean and other embassies, as well as panels on themes such as counter-terrorism and international development.

Sample Placements - Placement sites have included the

- U.S. Department of State,
- Amnesty International,
- National Defense University,
- American Enterprise Institute,
- American Council of Young Political Leaders
- the Constituency for Africa, Embassy of Paraguay,
- the Center for Strategic and International Studies,
- the United Nations Association,

Law and Criminal Justice Program



Prepares students for careers in law or law enforcement. Students work in government legal offices, at the federal or local level, in private law firms or associations, in an array of practice areas including, but not limited to, criminal prosecution and defense, civil rights, consumer protection, family law and immigration. Law enforcement-related internships provide students with experience investigating crimes, interviewing witnesses, or analyzing issues related to criminal justice and law enforcement.

Sample Placements - Placement sites have included the

- U.S. Department of Justice,
- Interpol, U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia,
- U.S. Marshals Service,
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- Montgomery County Office of the Public Defender
- and various private law firms, among many others.

Media and Communication Program



Prepares students for careers in the expanding field of communications, including print and broadcast journalism, production, advertising, public relations, photography, graphic design, political communications, and electronic and new media. Through seminars, lectures and personal interviews, students have numerous opportunities to meet and speak with leading practitioners and representatives of major firms in these fields.

Sample Placements - Placement sites have included the

- White House Media Affairs Office,
- Congressional press offices,
- USA Today,
- CNN.
- America's Most Wanted,

- CBS News.
- National Press Club,
- The Washington Times,
- Tribune Broadcasting,
- Talk News Radio

NAFTA - Americas Leaders Program

This program engages students from throughout the world to participate in interactive forums and discussions with nationals from different countries on topics such as international trade agreements, multilateral organizations, cross-cultural communication, business relations, international cooperation, migration, energy and environment, and international laws and regulations.

This program combines a 4 day per week internship with a full day of programming.

Traditionally, participants have come mainly from Canada, the United States, Mexico and Latin America, and have had a strong interest in learning more about regional integration, and the relationships among and within states in the Western Hemisphere. It is a good fit for students looking to increase their knowledge and expertise about regional integration in the Americas and improve their understanding of the ever-increasing interdependence between states, as well as U.S. policies towards Latin America and Canada.

Sample Placements - Placement sites have included the

- Embassy of Canada,
- Embassy of Mexico,
- Inter-American Development Bank,
- Organization of American States,
- Pan American Health Organization,
- Canadian American Business Council,
- Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute
- Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars,
- U.S. Small Business Administration,
- North American Commission on
- Labor Cooperation, Law firms,
- Lobbying firms

Political Leadership Program



Provides internships with members of Congress, congressional committees, political party organizations, and interest groups.

It places students squarely in the arena of political action, where they have opportunities to work on such critical issues as national defense, homeland security, environmental protection, tax policy, social security, health care, and the Middle East peace process.

Students meet with policymakers and other influential figures as part of additional programming.

Sample Placements - Placements have been with the

- White House Office of Public Affairs.
- House Ways and Means Committee,
- Congressional Offices,
- National Republican Congressional Committee,
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

- Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute,
- Senate Health, Education,
- Labor and Pensions Committee,
- and many other offices and organizations