



The LAS Insider

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A Newsletter for Undergraduates in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

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The LAS Insider is a newsletter compiled by the Academic Advising staff of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

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How to Score the Internship of Your Dreams

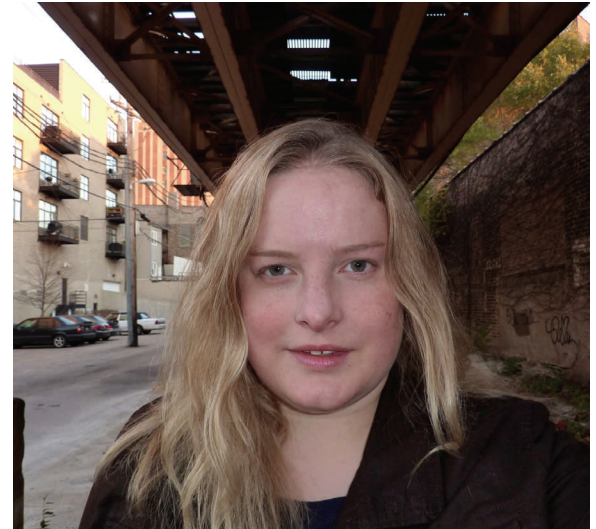
by *Kate McCarter*

In search of an internship for the fall semester, I perused the usual suspects: UIC’s Careers site and other job and volunteer boards. But I also struck out purposefully in an effort to refine my search: reading articles about urban planning and conservation initiatives in the Chicago area; consulting with family and friends; and roaming among various organizations’ websites as my interests led the way. When I finally found myself navigating the Chicago History Museum’s internship page, there it was, staring back at me: “L” Tours Research Assistant. With an emphasis on writing, research, the “L” and Chicago history, the description felt as though it had been written expressly for me.

Thus, with all my hopes loaded into this ideal internship, I pitched my extreme enthusiasm while silently assuring myself that I would survive if the opportunity wasn’t meant to be. Luckily, I was offered the position, and thus started a fall semester not of delivering coffee, but of exploring the “L” and the inner workings of the museum.

Over the summer, I used the green line to travel to computer classes downtown. My home line, as I suppose I should call it, is the blue and I’ve used it to travel to UIC, jobs, restaurants, O’Hare...a bit of everything. The “L” is easy, fast, fun and—sometimes—stressful. To me, the “L” isn’t only utilitarian, but it’s also an aesthetic and cultural experience. From the

story continued on page 2



Kate McCarter underneath the blue line L

An Internship : The Necessary Link

by *Linda Landis Andrews, Department of English*

Whether working in special events for ESPN or compiling domestic violence paperwork in the state’s attorney’s office, all internships in the English Department offer a link to the professional world that students need after graduation.

People who write well are in short supply. Paradoxically, finding a job with a writing component is a challenge for English majors after graduation because most employers want to hire graduates with experience. An internship shows that students have stepped off campus and know how

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UIC COLLEGE OF
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Diverse Opportunities for English Majors

How to Score the Internship continued

grime, smells, and graffiti to striking downtown views, the accessible “L” has some oddly privileged vantage points.

As my supervisor and I created a timeline for my project, we focused on the blue line. Specifically, I’ve been expanding the walking portion of the blue line tour script further into the Wicker Park Historic District. Much like the “L” itself, Wicker Park is a neighborhood of contrasts and contradictions. It is culturally, racially, and economically diverse. While its identity has changed, inhabitants acknowledge those who came before: from beer barons who built a series of mansions in the 1870’s; to Haymarket era labor activists who gathered in the park; to the down-and-out described by fellow Wicker Park resident, Nelson Algren; to the Latino population who found themselves pushed further west by a 30-year wave of gentrification.

As an intern in the Visitor Services department within the museum, I’ve been able to attend a number of interpreter training meetings. I’ve noticed the emphasis on visible, tangible artifacts and on thematic threads which tie tours together. As I near a finished product, I’m working to incorporate the aspects of a successful tour into the written guide itself. While I spend my time at the museum researching and writing, I’ve also taken an experiential approach. I’ve walked the neighborhood for hours, camera in hand, to capture what interpreters and participants will see. I’ve learned how to format maps from scratch to include in the printed guide. As I see my knowledge of the neighborhood grow and as I see the guide take shape, I eagerly and anxiously await the first expanded tour.

An internship shows that students have stepped off campus and know how to navigate in the world of professional work. An internship provides the necessary link between college and a career.

Kidding Around at Time Out Chicago

by Lily Hansen

For the fall semester of 2009, I interned in the ‘Kids’ section of *Time Out Chicago* magazine. Throughout the semester I wrote for both the weekly *Time Out Chicago* and the quarterly *Time Out Chicago Kids* magazine, and worked closely with my editor, Judy Sutton, and one other intern. Before interning at *Time Out Chicago*, I had only written art reviews for my university’s newspaper, *The Chicago Flame*, and had never truly experienced deadlines, editors, or other aspects of the professional journalism world. Despite some mundane tasks typically asked of interns, such as fact checking or product returning, I felt that I was taken seriously and treated as an equal to the paid employees at *Time Out Chicago*.

My editor always asked me to sit in on weekly meetings in which we discussed the upcoming magazine’s thematic contents, feature stories, photography, and other important details. In these meetings, the interns were included in the discussions and asked to pitch their own stories, or ideas, at the very least. I was always encouraged by the editors and writing staff to express my opinions on what elements I felt worked or could be improved, which is especially important as the children’s publication is a brand new edition to the company.

Overall, my internship at *Time Out Chicago* was amazingly beneficial. I gained four published writing samples in one semester and was asked to stay on for an additional semester to intern in the music section. I entered my internship with the intention of leaving with two bylines and my expectations were far exceeded: not only did I gain amazing professional experience—and a great letter of recommendation—but I was also promoted to the department of my dreams. Interning at *Time Out Chicago* is truly the smartest career move I have made to date.

The Necessary Link continued

to navigate in the world of professional work. An internship provides the necessary link between college and a career.

Credit-bearing internships are offered each semester in the English Department. Students work 12-15 hours a week and attend English 493, a six-credit course, one hour a week. Besides working at their internship and reading books and articles, they write reports on various aspects of interning.

The prerequisites are a grade point average of 2.5; nine courses in English including ENGL 240 and ENGL 202 (Media and Professional Writing), or consent of the instructor.

Students apply to organizations where writing skills are essential such as: WTTW, Facets Multimedia, Comcast Sports, [Today's Chicago Woman](#), YWCA, WGN, the Cook County State's Attorney's office, and Amnesty International, to name a few. In the bustling metropolis of Chicago, there are internships to meet every interest.

In the prerequisite class, English 202, students learn to write for a public audience. They tackle reporting and interview people for stories that serve as writing samples for internships and jobs. They attend a workshop in InDesign, an industry-wide software program used for page makeup. They prepare a packet to send to employers—based on work generated in ENGL 202—including a cover letter, resume, and two writing samples written for a public audience. After interviewing with employers who are interested in their skills, students wait for offers and accept the one that best fits their needs.

Assignments for English 493 include an internship journal; interviewing a decision maker in the organization; writing about the work culture; and learning how to write professionally. Students are also coached on how to find a writing position after graduation.

Besides gaining marketable experience, an internship provides a professional network. Even though the internship supervisor might not have a job available, she or he knows many people working in the field and can provide an introduction to a person who is hiring.

The popular expression, “Finding a job is a job,” applies to internships also. The same hard work involved in finding a job is required to find an internship that fits a student's interests.

Applying for internships might seem like jumping off a cliff but a less scary proposition with the safety harness of the English Department attached.

For more information on internships for English majors, students can contact the department's Internship Coordinator, Linda Landis Andrews, at landrews@uic.edu.

Interning Off the Beaten Path

by Jay Cleveland

Even though I can write pretty well, I don't want to spend my entire career just sitting behind a desk writing. That's why, when I set out looking for an internship, I looked for the unconventional, something that would keep me busy, but lacked the tediousness of most office work.

After several interviews, and a few offers, I settled on Koval Distillery, Chicago's first and only distillery specializing in organic and kosher liquors. This internship promised to be equal parts writing, public relations work, and apprenticeship. For this reason, I looked forward to applying and honing the skills I had already learned at UIC as well as learning a new craft – one that interested me, too.

Since working at Koval, not only have I written articles and contacted and worked with media representatives but I've also organized and run special events. My jack-of-all-trades English education has made me a perfect fit for this internship. Through my work with the distillery, I discovered that I am actually pretty talented at sales. In fact, I have been inspired to continue to work in a related field: distribution. Luckily, due to my hard work as an intern, I have secured employment for that dreaded post-graduate “transitional period.”

A Pre-Law Student's Dream Come True

by Kelly Murray



The best decision I have made during college has been interning at the Cook County State's Attorney's office. I cannot describe the self-confidence and fulfillment this experience has brought me. Instead of just holding an average "college job" while taking classes, I am making the necessary connections I will need for my future professional career as an attorney.

Today's economy makes the job market extra competitive—even for young lawyers—and taking on an internship is the best way to hone—and advertise—your abilities and work ethic. Though most interns are unpaid, in the long run, the right internship is a great investment and well worth an undergraduate's time. Where else can you gain first-hand experience in a career you might want to do for the rest of your life?

The best days on the job for me are going to court with the attorneys. It feels great to be able to help when the courtroom gets chaotic, either by answering the court phone or filling out paperwork. Though the cases I observe are often saddening, watching the attorneys help victims of domestic violence has made the experience rewarding. Being in the courtroom for the first time was one of the best experiences of my life. Sitting alongside the attorneys as they work is any pre-law student's dream and I am so thankful I took advantage of this opportunity.

My knowledge of the criminal justice system has been incredibly expanded. Instead of reading out of a book about the processes of a courtroom, I learn everyday by being in one myself. I highly recommend interning to all LAS undergraduates. I can assure you that it will be well worth your time.

Explore the Word of Possibilities— INTERN!

by Robin Hursey, Senior Academic Advisor—LAS Internships

Twelve years of experience as an Academic Advisor, travel all over the U.S. doing Outplacement Counseling, and teaching resume writing in college success seminars made coordinating the internship program in LAS a natural progression in my career development. Oh yes, I also interned when I was an undergraduate.

Interning while you are pursuing a Bachelor's degree is becoming the norm rather than the exception. Many LAS students take the opportunity to intern: some for the graduation credit and others for the experience. Interning prepares you for the job market, helps you to decide whether or not a certain career path is right for you, and allows you make professional contacts for your future. It is now recommended that students have at least **TWO** internships during their undergraduate career.

If you are interested, then you need to begin investigating now. LAS interns at UIC have an advantage over students at many other universities because the city of Chicago is at our fingertips. Our students are interning in the media, law enforcement, government, legal professions, public relations, advertising, marketing, businesses, nonprofits and even on the UIC campus! Also, don't forget about national and international internships, especially if you are interested in interning over the summer months. (Students interested in international internships can contact UIC's Study Abroad Office directly for more information).

If an internship is beginning to sound good to you, don't procrastinate! You will need to start preparing about six months before you want to intern. Getting your resume together is the first order of business. Also, you should start exploring the internet for internship possibilities. You can begin your search at UICcareers.com.

The basic requirements for a credited internship are: you must have earned a minimum of 45 credit hours, your GPA must be a 2.5 or higher, and you must have a declared major. Transfer students must earn a minimum of 15 credit hours at UIC before they are eligible. Also, there are prerequisite courses that must be completed before you can intern.

In addition, to earn LAS graduation credit, your major department must have an internship course. Currently, the following majors have internship courses for credit: Anthropology; Chemistry; Communication; Criminology, Law and Justice; Earth and Environmental Sciences; English; German; Latin American and Latino Studies; Political Science; Psychology (Applied); and Sociology.

So, if you are interested in interning in the near future, please give me a call at 312-996-0425 to set up an appointment. You may also contact me at internships@las.uic.edu.



How to Land Your First Job

by LAS alum Natalie Drogos

“So, what previous job experience do you have that would make you right for this position?” This is a question I heard time and time again in interviews for even part-time employment. I wanted to reply by saying, “I’m a great student, a hard-worker, and fast learner” but I knew that such a reply would not cut it in a highly competitive job market. For this reason, I would like to argue that one of the most helpful career related experiences of one’s undergraduate experience is an internship. It is an opportunity to gain hands on knowledge in the work force, meet new people, and find out which field of work may or may not be right for you.

There are many advantages that come along with working with the college during the search process for an internship. The **LAS Internship Program** and **UIC Office of Career Services** are great resources that can help prepare you for the job market. Robin Hursey, the Senior Academic Advisor for LAS Internships, as well as the Career Services staff, work side by side with students, not only in providing assistance in writing and revising resumes but also in preparing students for interviews. Since interviewing skills are not taught in a traditional classroom setting, coaching sessions and mock interviews with skilled staff are great practice for those post-grad interviews that you hope will lead to a career.



Internships provide hands on experience in the work force and teach you skills that are difficult to acquire in a classroom. Learning theory from professors and textbooks can only take you so far. Internships give you the opportunity to take what you have learned in the classroom and *apply* it. You will have the opportunity to execute studies, research, and projects in a field that has always interested you. You will also learn a lot about teamwork as you work alongside people from diverse backgrounds with varying experience levels and different educational backgrounds. You can also learn a great deal about yourself and the unique skill set you have to offer.

Natalie Drogos is currently employed as a Marketing Assistant at Chicago-Music 233 North Michigan Avenue

Application Information for Pre-Health Students

If you are thinking about applying to a health professional school next year, be sure that you have thought about the following:

- Is a bachelor’s degree required prior to entry? Do you know which requirements for your major and degree are still outstanding? If not, see a LAS and major advisor to check on your graduation status.
- When will you apply? Do you know the “best” time to apply? Will you be ready?
- Have you seen the application? Do you know all of the application requirements?
- Do you know which entrance exam you must take? Have you studied for it? Visit the website of the required standardized test for your intended program. Review it for registration and test information and determine the best time to take the exam. Study, Study, Study! Plan on taking the exam once.
- Can you articulate why you are interested in the profession you are pursuing? Can you write a convincing personal essay explaining your sincere interest and unique qualifications?

Applying to professional schools takes a great deal of preparation and planning. Our pre-health advisors recommend that you begin your research as soon as possible. It’s not too early to begin looking at catalogs and websites to become familiar with the selection criteria, admissions requirements, and curriculum of several programs. If you are feeling overwhelmed, you should plan on attending an application workshop with our pre-health advisors in the spring semester to help with the process. Whether you are applying this summer or in two years, it is important to be informed and prepared. The college offers workshops to help students in all stages of application to various healthcare professions. Dates and times will be posted on the pre-health website <http://www.uic.edu/las/students/prehealth/> in late January.

Jump-starting Your Career in Criminal Justice

by Nick Webster

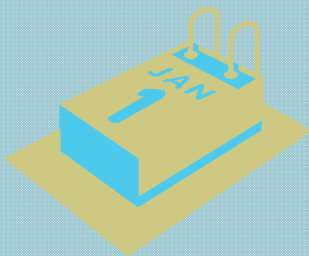
Ask your LAS advisor about Retro-Credits for Foreign Languages

Effective Fall, 2009, an LAS undergraduate who has placed into the 104 or higher level of a foreign language taught at UIC as the result of the UIC administered placement tests may receive academic proficiency credits for prerequisite courses.

These credits are awarded only for courses taught at UIC and only on the basis of **new student placement tests results for those with no prior college-level foreign language credits**. The credits may be applied only to the first language course taken.

Proficiency credits appear as "P" on the transcript and are not calculated into the grade point average. Proficiency credit does not apply to placements based on AP, SAT, or IB scores for which credits are applied in a prescribed manner or to international students for their native language. CLEP credits are not accepted for foreign language courses.

Students must initiate the request for the credits after the completion of the required course by seeing an LAS academic advisor.



Mark your calendar for LAS events

<http://www.uic.edu/htbin/eventcal/eventcal.fcgi?defaultcal=las.deptcal>

Have you ever wondered if those police and courtroom dramas on TV accurately reflect their professions? Have you ever considered a career involving the criminal justice system? An internship in the Criminology, Law, and Justice (CLJ) Department at UIC can provide a great way for students to gain hands-on experience working in the field while also applying their knowledge and earning credit toward a major in CLJ. Our faculty provide the conceptual foundations and basic knowledge for students to successfully function within various criminal justice organizations. Host organizations provide atmosphere, practical operations, and activities which cannot be found at UIC. Students have an opportunity to determine the survival value of their ideas in a practical setting and to see how they want to pursue a career in criminal justice. Our internship program is designed to strengthen ties between UIC and various criminal justice agencies as well as UIC and the larger Chicago community.

In fact, the CLJ internship program is involved in the city far beyond law enforcement and lawyers' offices. We are interested in working with people directly involved in the system, including victims, communities, and offenders. To this end, the CLJ internship program has developed relationships with organizations including:

- Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice
- Chicago Police Department
- Circuit Court of Cook County
- Court Appointed Special Advocates of Cook County
- Crisis Center for South Suburbia
- Fox Valley Adult Transition Center
- Illinois Department of Corrections
- Macy's Loss Prevention
- Probation and Court Services of DuPage County
- State's Attorney of Cook County
- Safer Foundation
- Salvation Army Correctional Services.



Although an internship is not required for the CLJ major, it can be used to fulfill one of the upper-level major electives. This provides an opportunity to get out of the classroom and start earning experience while continuing to make progress in your major. To apply for an internship through the CLJ department, you must first be a junior or senior who has finished 5 of the 11 core classes in the major. In addition, a minimum 2.50 GPA—overall and in the major—is required.

An internship does require a large time commitment—sometimes even more than a regular class. Interns are required to work at least 12 hours per week at their sites and they must also participate in self-reflection exercises, such as keeping a journal or writing a paper about their experiences. Students should note that credit eligibility toward the CLJ major is based on what is learned during the internship, not merely the number of clock hours spent in the work situation. Internships are not "easy A's," but they are a great way for truly motivated students to try out a different way of learning and to test the field for themselves. The aim of the CLJ Internship Program is to help prepare more practically-trained graduates who will become leaders in all aspects of the criminal justice field.

A Brief History of Thirty Years of Internships in

Political Science by Professor Dick Simpson

The Political Science Department at UIC has had an internship program since the 1970s. Undergraduates majoring in Political Science have worked for the President, Congressmen, Aldermen, State Legislators, political campaigns, law firms, public interest groups, and community organizations.

Generally, the internship program has been available only in the spring semester and only to Political Science majors who are juniors or seniors with a B average. However, this next academic year—beginning in Fall 2010—the internship program will be enlarged for students in Communications or Political Science during the fall semester as well as to Political Science students in the spring semester. (Summer Internships are not yet available).

Class size is limited to 25 students who receive six hours of course credit for attending one hour of class a week while working at least 10 hours a week at their internship job site. During the course of the term, students read five books, including Grant Reehner's and Mack Mariani's *The Insider's Guide to Political Internships* as well as write a reflection paper on their experience. The departments of Political Science and Communication or Robin Hursey (LAS Internships) can help students find the best fit for their interests or students may choose to find a unique opportunity on their own.

Here are just a few examples of what our hard working interns have done:

Shelby Lasaine who worked for the British Consulate-General of Chicago was the primary resident researcher on climate change policy for the British Embassy in Washington D.C. Dan Brown was “one of the most dedicated and dependable interns Heartland International has ever had,” according to their President. In his internship, Brown worked to coordinate visits and educational programs of international delegations from around the world.

In a different kind of internship experience, Nick Murray worked on the campaign for State Senator

Dan Kotowski—helping him to win reelection to the State Senate—and then worked in the Senator's office. Pasquale Neri worked for 2nd Ward Chicago Alderman Bob Fioretti during his senior year and now has a full time job with the Alderman helping with research, community services, and city legislation.

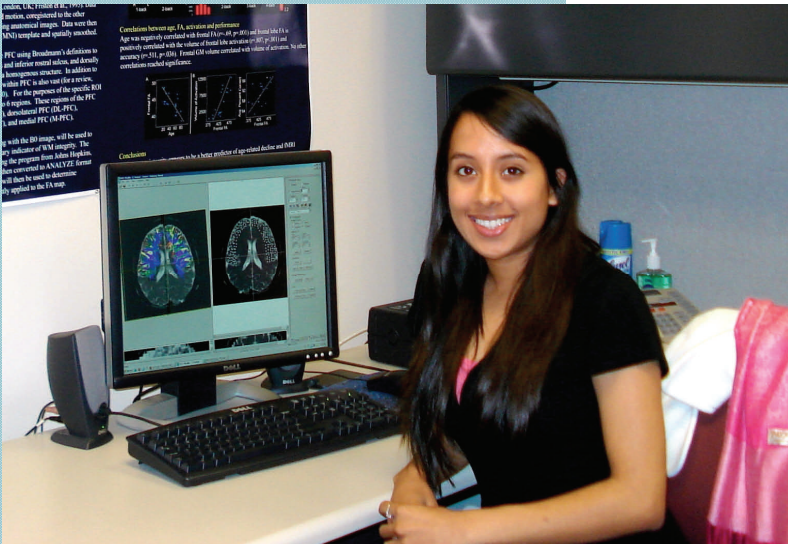


While interning for the Lawyer Committee for Better Housing, Adam Kuranishi wrote of his experience, “As a legal assistant, my critical consciousness was challenged and I discovered the blatant discriminatory practices by landlords and honest renters of multi-unit buildings caught in foreclosure...My work at the law office significantly impacted my life and I learned the importance of legal advocacy in social justice efforts.”

For more information on Political Science internships and new interning opportunities for Communication majors, students can contact Professor Dick Simpson, Head of the Political Science Department at simpson@uic.edu.

LASURI: REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

From 4 LAS Undergraduate Research Initiative Recipients



Shama Patel in the lab

Rekindling a Childlike Curiosity Through Research

by Shama Patel

From the very beginning of my undergraduate study, I was determined to do research. My desire to do so was so strong that I didn't care about what I'd be researching or where I'd be doing it. With this indeterminate goal in mind, I made an appointment with my honors college fellow, a faculty member who served as both academic advisor and mentor, to discuss potential research opportunities at UIC. I was naïve and without a clear research interest. All I knew was that I wanted to study the human brain.

My fellow encouraged me to try to figure out what I was most interested in, and if neuroscience was it, he recommended that I read Erik Kandel's autobiography. Although I had hoped to be given a clear direction after our meeting, I left feeling even more frustrated. Even so, I went ahead and read the recommended book by the Nobel Prize winning scientist.

In retrospect, that was one of the most significant conversations I have had thus far in my academic career. I realized that my undergraduate years are a time for me to explore my own interests—to let my curiosity guide my journey—as opposed to years where I simply fill up space on my resume. The science of the brain has always fascinated me and when I reminded myself of that a whole new world opened up. I looked through some faculty profiles and identified faculty working in the area of human neuroscience.

A year later, I am happy to say that I work as an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Deborah Little's lab. Some of my research duties include novel analysis on data that has already been collected. The aim is to characterize cortical U-fibers and determine integrity of cerebral white matter tracts and their correlation to behavior by looking at the data of subjects that range from the young to the elderly.

In the short time I have been working in this lab, I have already learned so much about brain anatomy and how to analyze and understand DTI (diffusion tensor imaging) data. I have also learned the fundamentals of MR (magnetic resonance) Physics. Through this experience, I am honing my own critical thinking skills, gaining research experience, and perhaps, most importantly, I have rekindled the sort of curiosity in science that I remember having as a child.

Avery Brundage Scholarship

Undergraduate (and graduate) students who demonstrate excellence both in academic pursuits and amateur athletic endeavors are invited to apply for the 37th annual Avery Brundage Scholarship. The competition is open to full-time students at any of the three University of Illinois campuses. In addition to being an excellent student, applicants must have demonstrated "special athletic ability" in an amateur sport as a part of personal development rather than as preparation for professional athletics. Applications can be submitted online at www.usp.uillinois.edu/brundage. The deadline is Friday, February 12, 2010.

Sharing a Passion for Planetary Science

by Yaser Kattoum

I became interested in research while conversing with one of my UIC professors about the possibility of matching up my academic interests with an extracurricular activity. He recommended that I speak to one of his colleagues who shared my passion for planetary science.

I have now been working in the department of Earth and Environmental Sciences with my faculty mentor, Professor Andrew Dombard, for well over a year. Our work primarily involves planetary geophysics and we have just submitted a manuscript for publication on the calculation of the topography of a differentiated asteroid, Vesta. I gave a talk on this project early in the fall at a planetary science conference in Puerto Rico.



Our present research includes analyzing the heat flow data from the Apollo missions. The purpose of our research is to help mitigate unnecessary NASA mission experiments on the heat flow of the Moon. I will attend a conference in Texas in the spring to present this research. I am currently applying to graduate schools and I am hoping that my research experience will set me apart in a highly qualified applicant pool. The research I have conducted alongside my mentor has opened up numerous doors for me and without it I would not have been able to do things such as landing a research internship in

Yaser Kattoum at a mountain retreat

Germany this past summer. Certainly, my research experience has enabled me to hone a broad range of skills that will undoubtedly prove useful for all sorts of career paths.

Learning to Think Like a Scientist

by Aunica Jones

I am currently a junior at UIC majoring in neuroscience. Under the supervision of Dr. Leslie Fung in the Department of Chemistry, my LASURI research project focuses on using recombinant proteins as model proteins for biophysical studies. The first step of my training and research is to purify a recombinant protein produced by *E. coli* cells. My immediate goal is to separate the protein of interest from other cellular components, including other proteins, which I consider impurities. I learned to lyse the bacterial cells and use affinity chromatography to purify my protein. I then use gel electrophoresis to analyze the purity of the protein that I prepared.

I am being trained by Dr. Fung to learn the principles behind the techniques I use and to learn to work as an expert. So I find that every day I am working more effectively on my project by learning how to think and approach questions like a scientist. I believe that I have learned a lot in this form of training. I also believe that my scientific knowledge is more integrated and is strengthened by this research experience. I no longer think of just physical chemistry or biochemistry; instead, I think of the proteins as molecules and what they would do on my affinity column or on my gel.

I have also learned the emotional part of being a scientist. I have often felt inspired as I conduct research. However, at various times, I have also felt frustrated. I have learned through trial and error how to develop more patience with my project because there are moments in the lab where I make mistakes that result in starting a preparation over again. However, at the end of the day, the most important lesson is learning how to adapt to the situation so that you can learn from your mistakes.

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Anderson in Crete at Sir Arthur Evans' house

Learning to Think Like a Scientist continued

I am very grateful that LAS has introduced this type of program for undergraduates because it has given me a great opportunity to work on an individual research project. I believe that I have transformed into a more motivated individual not only in the laboratory but also in my academic life. My LASURI experience has certainly bolstered my interest in the sciences and has increased my confidence level as I consider pursuing an advanced degree in the near future.

For Applied Psychology majors, internships often turn into jobs. Kathryn Engel, the Director of the Applied Psychology Internship program reports that between 65-80% of students seeking positions receive job offers from their internship sites. Even if the internship site does not directly hire an intern, students quickly find positions at prestigious agencies such as Stroger Hospital, Rush Day School, Rush University Medical Center, Rape Victims Advocates, Thresholds and Elgin Community Crisis Centers. Through the Applied Psychology internship experience, students enhance their clinical skills and build professional connections that prepare them for the world of work.

Remapping the Universe

by A. Sebastian Anderson

As a senior majoring in Classical Languages and Literatures, I am currently co-authoring an article on the geography of the beyond in early Greek thought with Nanno Marinatos, Professor of Classics. By reading the ancient authors Hesiod, Aeschylus, and the Pre-Socratic philosophers in the original Ancient Greek, we are re-constituted the conceptual map of the archaic Greek universe. In our collaboration, we argue that this world was imagined as a sphere with outer and inner layers—similar to an onion—with both horizontal and vertical extremes, relative to man's perspective. Our thesis seeks to answer the challenge posed by the current scholarly consensus, which is that the cosmic map of Hesiod is not fully worked out and cannot be mapped out coherently. Our goal, therefore, is to restore the highly conceptual cosmic map Hesiod and other writers had in mind. The article is forthcoming in a volume of collected essays on Paradise.

Experience is the Best Teacher

LAS Insider, Julie Hau, speaks with
PSCH major, Donnelly Davila

In the Psychology department, the adage coined by Julius Caesar that “experience is the best teacher” is put to the test. As a capstone to the Applied Psychology majors’ undergraduate curriculum, students complete **Psychology 385**, which is field work in applied psychology. Donnelly Davila recently completed an internship at Sarah’s Inn, a domestic violence center in Oak Park. Like many of her peers, she was encouraged to apply for a job at the close of her internship. Ultimately, she decided to pass on the children’s advocate position she was offered by her placement site in order to attend graduate school. In a recent conversation, she explained the value of her internship experience:

“Interning with Sarah's Inn has helped me to improve the skills I have learned in my undergraduate education and to find the career I would most like to pursue... I have learned to facilitate support groups for children, teens, and women victims of domestic violence. As part of my internship, I created modules and activities for group counseling as well as assisted staff members in creating and conducting their activities. Other formative experiences have been learning how to help in crisis situations while working on the Crisis Line and participating in outreach education designed not only for promoting violence prevention but also for raising the necessary funds for the organization. This internship has also given me the opportunity to work with advocates, learn from their techniques, and to carry out what I have learned under supervision... Working with children in crisis situations has been one of the most challenging responsibilities of my life. Sarah’s Inn has given me the mentorship I needed to develop the strength and know-how necessary for effective advocacy. I have to say that fieldwork is one of the best ways to use what our Psychology professors have taught us as well as to get to know your chosen field and its best practices.”