



Internship Overview

Animal and Veterinary Science Internship Program (ANSC 4550)
University of Wyoming



Purpose of the Internship Experience

An internship provides opportunities to acquire "hands-on" experience in a field of interest to the student. Internships may be developed in the United States or in a foreign country. This program is recommended for students with Sophomore/Junior status as it allows evaluation of career choices and opportunities prior to graduation. Internships provide learning experiences that are difficult if not impossible to realize in a classroom setting. Following the off-campus educational experience, the student will be more able to evaluate potential career opportunities and to select additional classes on campus to complement career direction. In addition to the labor provided, and internship may also provide the cooperater with a better idea of the potential of the student as a future employee following completion of the internship.

Eligibility Requirements

Only students with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better and sophomore or higher standing (or by special permission from the Program Coordinator) are eligible to earn internship credit. All arrangements for the internship, including submission and approval of the completed Memorandum of Agreement, must be completed prior to beginning the internship and before permission is given to enroll in ANSC 4550. Foreign students enrolled in the internship program may not be paid through non-UW sources due to federal regulations.

Responsibilities of the Student

Students make all the arrangements for their Internship including finding and contacting a Cooperator. Initial contact with a potential cooperater may be made by the student or at the suggestion of their academic adviser or internship coordinator. A Memorandum of Agreement will be developed and approved by the student, cooperater, on-campus adviser, and internship coordinator. The student will be responsible for transportation to and from the place of employment, housing and board, and protection and coverage by insurance. A stipend may be paid to the student by the cooperater.

Responsibilities of the Cooperator

The internship cooperater is a person or persons that will provide practical and technical educational experiences. Cooperaters participate in the Internship Program because of their sincere interest in helping students with their education in agriculture. The internship program is designed to familiarize students with career choices and the responsibilities, commitments and risks associated with these choices. Consequently, the internship should not be viewed simply as a source of cheap labor. Typically, students contribute enough to the internship experience to justify time spent by the cooperater in training the student. The cooperater becomes a teacher by providing meaningful learning experiences.

University Credit Hours

Students may register for a maximum of 8 credit hours of ANSC 4550 (Internship in Animal Science) during their academic career. Therefore, students (esp sophomores/juniors) will generally be discouraged from enrolling in more than 4 credit hours for any given internship to permit earning credit for any future internship opportunities. As a general guideline, most internships exceed 30 hours of work per credit hour, which is therefore considered the minimum work requirement. The length, semester(s), and hours of internship credit earned through U.W. can be individualized to the student with approval by the student's advisor and the Internship Program Coordinator. Grading in ANSC 4550 is on a pass/fail (S/U) basis only. To earn a passing grade, the student will:

- Maintain a written journal of experiences gained during the internship.
- Keep in regular email contact with the internship coordinator (approximately every 7-10 days) to provide a brief progress report on internship activities and any problems that may arise.
- Give an 8-10 minute presentation detailing their internship experiences to students, faculty, and staff at UW as part of the Animal Science Departmental Seminar Series.
- Prepare a 10-page (max) double spaced paper describing their internship learning experience. This paper will serve as the student's evaluation of the internship, and will be kept on file in the ANSC office as a resource for potential interns as they seek internship opportunities in the future. Refer to the Suggested Outline for Final Paper for more details on preparation of this paper.

Evaluation of the Internship.

The periodic progress reports, final paper, and presentation serve as the student's evaluation of the overall internship experience. The cooperater will also evaluate the student and internship program upon completion of the internship. The cooperater's evaluation will be shared with the student upon permission from the cooperater. Both student and cooperater evaluations will be used to improve the Internship Program.