

The Master of Science in Business Analysis Internship Experience:

What is it? A unique feature of the Master of Science in Business Analysis degree is the requirement that all students complement their classroom instruction with an internship. We believe this serves three purposes:

- 1) Develops good work habits and time management skills
- 2) Exposes students to the real world practical application of the lessons they are learning in class
- 3) Gives students a sense of accomplishment and pride when they are able to start employing the skills and tools they acquire to contribute to the employer

How does it work? We have organized our class schedule to accommodate internships. All classes begin at 2:10 pm, Monday through Thursday. A typical day for a student might look like this:

9:00 am to 1:00 pm - Internship
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm - Travel to campus
2:10 pm to 6:30 pm - Classes
6:30 pm to midnight- Homework

We recommend students work 16 to 20 hours per week. The normal rate for a paid internship in the DC area is \$13 to \$15 an hour. Internships may cover one or both semesters the student is enrolled by mutual agreement between the employer and the student and the Program Director.

What are the internship expectations? Students are given specific tasks, deliverables and deadlines so they experience the reality of the workplace and feel a sense of contribution. Students are exposed to as many areas of the business as possible to broaden their knowledge and experience. This may consist of rotational assignments or simply an opportunity to shadow other departments during the course of the internships. Students regularly attend business meetings which provide additional learning experiences

What does success look like? Both parties must be satisfied with the relationship. The employer should feel they played an important role in the development of this future business leader and that they received a quality work product in return. The student should feel this learning experience enhanced and complemented their educational experience.

