

Virtual Global Internships: 2020

Learning & Program Outcomes



Presented here are key insights on student learning and satisfaction from the 2020 cohort of 38 students who took part in our learning outcomes assessment.

"I appreciate every aspect of culture; it is what makes us individuals different and a topic you can dive into to understand the individual better. When I reviewed the culture of Maori with my supervisor, I felt like I could understand her and the company better. Being culturally competent is to appreciate an individual's way of life and truly understanding the why behind everything."

-Hospitality & Tourism Marketing Intern

Documentation of Cultural Learning Outcomes

Personal Learning



Academic Learning



Professional Learning



Cultural Learning



PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of their remote internship experience, and in combination with the program curriculum, students will:

- Have actively engaged in the learning process, both within and outside of the internship placement.
- Have explored, examined, and/or clarified career goals.
- Have identified the basic nuances of working in a cross-cultural context.
- Gain practical skills, technological savvy, and an understanding of the remote work environment.
- Be able to apply their academic learning to practical experiences.
- Be better able to approach life with a high degree of adaptability, independence, and self-confidence.
- Demonstrate the ability to think critically, solve complex problems, and cope effectively with ambiguous and unfamiliar situations.
- Demonstrate an appreciation of, and open-mindedness toward, other cultures.
- Display an understanding of values, beliefs, traditions, and perspectives different from their own.

DOCUMENTATION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

Methodology: Students were asked to respond to a series of statements that pertained to their learning given the various aspects of their remote intern program. Using a five point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree; 5 = strongly agree), students selected the number that best corresponded with how likely they would be to agree with each statement as a result of their remote intern experience.

PERSONAL LEARNING: 4.5/5

- I am more readily able to adapt to new and different situations and environments 4.6
- I am more able to cope effectively with ambiguous and unfamiliar situations 4.5
- My ability to think critically and solve problems has increased 4.3
- I am more likely to seek out diverse, challenging experiences 4.5
- My overall level of self confidence has increased 4.4
- My overall personal independence has increased 4.4



“The internship also gave me a new perspective on my new major as it related to international business and technology. I learned about foreign policies and regulations, as well as how technology is used around the globe.”

- *Project Intern, NGO Focus*

ACADEMIC LEARNING: 4.4/5

- I can effectively explain my increased knowledge of global issues, processes, trends, and systems to others 4.1
- My level of engagement, both within and outside of the internship placement, has increased 4.4
- My ability to communicate across cultural and/or language differences has improved 4.4
- I can effectively explain to others how the content I've learned through the part of this internship experience in the classroom can be applied to a real life work situation 4.6



"I have had the chance to write reports and emails, talk on phone calls, and gave several 30 minute presentations completely in Spanish. I have loved the chance to practice my language skills, and I have gained a perspective on how intimidating and challenging it can be to work in a second language... I also feel much more confident in my ability to communicate effectively in Spanish"

- Biomedical Engineering Project Design Intern

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING: 4.5/5

- I have a greater understanding of how my future career field is situated within an international context 4.4
- I am more confident about my ability to work in a cross-cultural setting 4.5
- I was able to readily adapt to the virtual environment of my internship 4.8
- I have a better sense of my intended career goals 4.5

CULTURAL LEARNING: 4.2/5

- I have a better understanding of the values, beliefs, traditions, and perspectives of individuals who are different from me 3.8
- I will be more likely to take into account diversity and cultural differences on a regular basis 4.0
- I can explain how my own values, beliefs, and culture influence my interactions with others 4.5
- I have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures 4.6
- I have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of my own culture 4.5
- I have a greater awareness of issues that confront my host community 3.7
- I am more open-minded toward other cultures 4.5



"We had weekly cultural debriefs with Sonya Bell that truly opened my eyes to life in South Africa. It was especially beneficial to me because I was assigned a few projects about political and social issues in South Africa, and I was able to apply the knowledge learned in those sessions directly to the work I was doing. It is unfortunate, but I can say going into this I was not able to appreciate or understand just how differently life is among other cultures, but now I can definitely say that has changed."

- *Communications Intern, NGO Focus*

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<https://www.cisabroad.com/students/virtual-internships/>