

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY/BROADCAST & CINEMATIC ARTS INTERNSHIP GUIDELINES

OBJECTIVES

1. To fully involve advanced BCA students in the procedures and environment of broadcasting or related industries.
2. To provide students with the opportunity to refine talents and skills in a professional situation.
3. To integrate full or half-time work experience with the final semesters of academic involvement.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Junior, senior, or graduate student status at Central Michigan University.
2. Signed BCA major or minor.
3. Grade point average of at least 2.50 for undergraduates, 3.00 for graduate students.
4. School approval. Applicants are carefully reviewed to determine whether the student has satisfactorily completed appropriate course work and participated in relevant co-curricular activities. Attitude, ability to work well with others, and interpersonal skills are also considered. Department approval consists of a positive determination by the Internship Director and a nomination statement signed by two BCA faculty members.

CREDIT HOURS

Undergraduate students are eligible for 1-6 credit internships. Graduate students are eligible for 2-3 credit internships only.

1. Two (2) credit hours: Minimum of 5 hours per week for at least 15 consecutive weeks or part-time during weekends throughout the school year. (About 75 hours work experience).
2. Three (3) credit hours: Minimum of a 10 hours week for 15 consecutive weeks. (About 150 hours work experience).
3. Four (4) credit hours: Minimum of 12 hours per week for at least 15 consecutive weeks. (About 180 hours work experience).
4. Five (5) credit hours: Minimum of 15 hours per week for at least 15 weeks. (About 250 hours work experience).
5. Six (6) credit hours: Minimum of a 20 hours week for at least 15 weeks. (About 300 hours work experience).

NOTE: Only 6 hours of intern credit may count toward a major and only 3 hours may count toward a minor. BCA 529 does not satisfy the requirement that at least 6 elective hours in the major must be chose from 400-500 level courses.

PROCEDURES

1. The agency, or company/entity that hosts the internship **MUST** have an Affiliation Agreement on file with CMU's office of Licensure and Regulatory Service in place

two (2) weeks prior to the start of the internship. **Students will not be registered until the Agreement is in place.** Agreement applications are posted in the documents list on the Internship FAQ webpage. Read more about this here: https://www.cmich.edu/office_provost/academic_administration/Licensure-Regulatory-Services-Human-Capital/Agreements/Pages/affiliation.aspx

2. Students must first file an application in the BCA office. This must be completed no later than the last two weeks of the term preceding the period of the internship.
3. Normally the department will act on whether to approve the application within two weeks. The application must be accompanied by a transcript and a completed faculty nomination form.
4. The BCA department maintains a file of materials from radio and television stations or related organizations interested in hosting interns. Students whose applications have been approved by the department are invited to peruse this file and to directly contact stations regarding an internship. If a satisfactory arrangement is reached, the professional supervisor at the station should complete and sign the appropriate section of the internship application. After this is delivered to the BCA office, the student should initiate registration for BCA 529 in Moore Hall 340.
5. Some students have already established contacts with stations which are interested in having an intern. In this case, the student should file an application with the BCA department and after approval, ask the station supervisor to complete, sign, and return the appropriate section of the application. The student should then begin registration in the BCA office.
6. Some students may wish to file a general application which the department will attempt to match with media agencies seeking interns. These will be kept in the BCA Internship Supervisor's office, along with the student's resume. If the department is asked to provide credentials of potential interns, we will forward the names and materials of qualified students whose experience and interests seem appropriate for the positions.

EVALUATION

Upon completion of the internship, the student will be assigned a letter grade. Approximately 80% of the grade is based on the evaluations submitted by the station supervisor. The remaining 20% is based on the monthly narrative logs and the final intern report, which are due in the BCA office during the last week of the internship. Suggested formats for the logs and final report are available in Moore Hall 340. If the internship extends past the point when grades are due in the Registrar's Office, an incomplete grade will be assigned. If the internship takes place during the last semester of the senior year, the final report and logs must be submitted no later than two weeks before the end of the internship semester. Graduate students will be assigned a Credit (CR) or No-Credit (NC) grade, based on the aforementioned grading percentages, for internships.

COMPENSATION

Some stations pay interns and others do not. The matter of compensation is to be negotiated between the station and the student. This is not related to the amount of credit or the grade for the internship.

REGISTRATION

Because an internship is intended to be the result of a carefully pre-planned experience, no inter credit can be earned in advance of a department-approved application. Not that registration for the internship must be initiated in the BCA office. As is the case for other types of credit, payment is made through the Registrar's Office.

Although the School of BCA adheres strictly to the minimum requirements for internship credit, there is no assumption that every student fulfilling the minimum requirements will be approved for an internship. Our goal is to fill each internship with the most qualified students who will derive the greatest benefit from the specific available position and who will positively represent the School of BCA.