

CW Internship/Community Service Requirements

As part of your CW major requirements, you must complete a 45-hour internship in the community before you graduate. The internship may also encompass community service interests/volunteering. There are a few important things to consider:

1. Choose opportunities that interest you. Perhaps that may seem obvious, but it makes no sense to do something you hate or doesn't give you any insight into an area of focus that appeals to you. The internship may include a writing focus, or if you think you want to be a forensic biologist, and you can work at a lab in the basement of the Museum of Nature and Science, go for it!
2. You may choose to split your time between several opportunities if that works best for you; just be sure you get all opportunities approved by Moss or Azar.
3. Don't wait till the last minute (i.e. beginning of senior year) to set it up. This will be incredibly stressful. Summer is a great time to tackle it.
4. In addition to completing at least 45 documented/signed hours of an internship, you will be responsible for a few reflections regarding the experience. More details below.

How do you go about choosing or finding an internship?

Talk to us, talk to each other, your parents, your church, other organizations in the community, do web research, get on the phone, and see Nate Green, our DSA community resource person. His office is now in the library. Once you have found an internship opportunity, talk to Kaplan or Kohzadi to make sure it fits the spirit of the requirement. We are open to all sorts of opportunities, but bagging groceries at King Soopers probably won't work as an internship; the internship can be paid or unpaid.

Your internship must be completed by the end of your first semester senior year. By finished, this means you will hand in all necessary paperwork/documentation/reflections and we will give you a grade that is a significant part of your senior first semester grade.

If you complete your internship sooner than senior year (which we recommend), you are certainly welcome to hand in your documentation ahead of that time.

Internship requirements

- The creative writing department requires 45 internship hours to complete the program requirement.

- If you plan to use your internship as a component of the arts-endorsed diploma your senior year, you must complete 90 hours of the internship.
- A.) You must provide the following information: 1. a description of the organization/business where your internship takes/took place, 2. the full name and contact information of your supervisor (the person who has agreed to oversee you and sign off on hours), and 3. a description of what you plan to do and what you hope to learn at your internship (or retrospectively, what you did/learned).
- B.) You must have your hours signed off by a supervisor.
- C.) You must also provide a written reflection of your internship experience; please choose from the following two options regarding the reflection.

Reflection Option One:

Keep an ongoing journal documenting your experience as it progresses at your internship. The journal should document:

- Specific tasks
- Reflections on the organization/ your activities
- Other writing inspired by/about the experience
 - For example: If you were interning at The Museum of Nature and Science, maybe you would be inspired to write a poem about a type of prairie dog in one of their exhibits, or jot down a snippet of dialogue you overheard between museum patrons, or describe an interaction between siblings, or write a diatribe about the food in the cafeteria. Any other writing inspired by the experience.
- Minimum of five 100 word entries each quarter.

Reflection Option Two:

Write a 600 word reflection on your internship experience for the quarter. Describe briefly your duties and responsibilities, and then expand on the elements of the experience that left a strong impression on you. Consider: Did the internship in some way help shape/change your vision for your adult/career life? Did you get a strong sense of your own likes and dislikes in the working world? Did you discover any strengths or weaknesses in yourself? Did you like/dislike your internship and why? Would you recommend the organization to other students?