Media and Communications
Postgraduate Student Placements

Information for host organisations
Postgraduate Media and Communications Internships

We are pleased to invite you to host a student from our masters programs as an intern. By participating in this voluntary work placement program, you will benefit from the energy, enthusiasm and skills of graduate students.

What is the advantage of taking on an intern?
Our students are highly motivated professional graduates. Many have already worked in the media industry or in other professional capacities, bringing a wealth of skills to their placements. In addition to expanding your team, it is also a good opportunity to get a 'first look' at some of our most promising students as prospective employees.

How long are the internships?
Each student is required to complete a minimum of 140 hours (20 working days) of work in one or more organisations. The internship may be undertaken full-time or part time, reflexive to your availability.

How does the internship work?
Students will work under your supervision and direction on a range of tasks set out under the internship scope.

What kind of organisations can participate?
Students will work under your supervision and direction on a range of tasks set out under the internship scope.

Master of Health Communication
Any company or organisation that works in the health related industry can host an intern. This includes but is not limited to media, health departments, hospitals, community centres, not-for-profits, non-government organisations, pharmaceutical companies and public relations companies.

Master of Publishing
Any company or organisation that works in publishing (whether book, magazine or internet publishing), in editing, sales, publicity, management or marketing, or in any other professional capacity, can take part. While your core business might not be publishing, if you have an in-house publication that an intern could work on, you would qualify.

Master of Media Practice
Any company or organisation that works in the media related industry can host an intern. This includes but is not limited to organisation that focus on journalism, particularly content production for print, radio, television, online and convergent media.
Master of Digital Communications and Culture
Any company or organisation that works in the various areas of the digital media industry, as well as broader fields where digital media plays an integral role. These include media, digital marketing and communications, telecommunications, IT, public relations, software and app development, mobile media, creative industries and publishing.

Master of Strategic Public Relations
Any company or organisation that works in the public relations field, working within strategy execution in government, corporate and non-profit contexts.

What kind of work should the interns do?
Interns are expected to work at a professional level, undertaking tasks that are normally completed in your particular workplace. We do ask that you outline in writing, in advance, the tasks that you expect an intern to undertake, though these may be altered in consultation with the intern and the internship coordinator at a later date.

Ideally, we would like students to be involved in a project that utilises their learning and skills. We trust that the student will provide a significant contribution to your organisation.

Are the interns paid?
No, interns are not paid. Our internships are categorised as vocational placements under the Fair Work Act 2009, and as such are lawfully unpaid.

What about insurance?
Unpaid interns are covered by the University of Sydney’s insurance for public liability and professional indemnity.

Our Masters programs

Master of Digital Communication and Culture
The Digital Communication and Culture program investigates the interplay between cultural change and technological innovations. We take a critical and transdisciplinary approach, framing technologies in social, historical and political contexts. Our graduates will pursue careers in fields where digital media present the greatest challenges and opportunities.

Master of Health Communication
Health Communication combines expertise from the Department of Media and Communications and the School of Public Health to provide the most comprehensive and specialised course in health communication in Australia. Health Communicators are one of largest industry workforces in public relations and media. This postgraduate degree is designed to meet the needs of those working in, or wishing to work in this growing specialty. It provides both media skills for professional communicators in health and medicine working in public affairs, public relations, community relations and journalism as well as evidence-based education in public health issues.

Master of Media Practice
The Media Practice degrees focus on media industry content production in the dynamic and increasingly global field of media and communications. Areas of study include writing for media, media liaison, broadcast and online journalism, ethical and legal issues in the media, and international media practice. Students develop a sophisticated understanding of the
media industries, audiences and global media environments this range of study provides students with high level written and spoken communication skills, as well as production skills in print, broadcast and online media.

**Master of Publishing**
The industry-accredited Master of Publishing degree equips candidates with the skills and knowledge required for book, magazine, digital and online publishing. The degree offers both professional training with direct vocational applications, as well as providing a scholarly approach to the history of publishing, its cultural significance and changing directions. Our units of study consider aspects of book, magazine and online editing; manuscript preparation; print and website production; publication design; and marketing. This program provides students with both practical production skills and an understanding of cultural consumption in theory and practice.

**Master of Strategic Public Relations**
Strategic Public Relations students graduate with an understanding of public relations theory and practice through real-life problem solving and engagement with industry. Our course equips students with skills and knowledge in agile thinking, strategic planning and creative campaign design required to engage organisational stakeholders in a media environment within which the boundaries between information, entertainment, image and politics are increasingly blurred. Areas of study include the various functions of public relations including media relations, relationship building, issues management, boundary spanning, stakeholder liaison, crisis communication and the integration of communications functions while developing essential skills in thinking, writing, speaking and working in teams.

**Contact**
If you have any questions or would like to discuss the internship program, please call or email the Postgraduate Coordinator below:

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