RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

Participating in undergraduate research expands academic experience and enhances understanding and knowledge of an academic field. A research internship provides students the opportunity to join an ongoing research project for a short period of time, helping to clarify academic, career and personal interests. Students will step into existing projects at various stages of the research process and can engage in a quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods approach. Research placements are typically at universities, but interns could also be placed in the private business sector, as well as research centers. Interns should not expect to conduct their own research or advance personal research projects.

Reasons to Intern Abroad

- Advance intercultural and scholarly skills
- Develop professionally and have the opportunity to explore research as a career- option
- Collaborate with like-minded students, both local and international
- Join the existing research team and gain hands-on experience, under the direct supervision of a scholar or professional
- Improve lab skills
- Determine if graduate school is the right path
- Learn about current research in the field

Ideal Candidates

- Possess an academic background and career interest in: the Sciences and Math, Engineering, Information Technology and Computer Information Systems, Social Sciences (Psychology and Sociology)
- Maintain interest in research opportunities and advanced research degrees
- Require research experience in conjunction with academic study
- Act in a professional manner at all times
- Enjoy working independently

Typical Tasks

- Inputting and analyzing data/coding data
- Collecting data in a lab or in the field
- Conducting literature reviews
- Designing research methods and instruments

Recommended Sites

As ISA has strong relationships with many universities in Australia and New Zealand, we have been successful identifying research opportunities in many different fields for those interns requesting research-based internships. Spain and Chile have also been great locations for research-based internships in a variety of academic fields. London is also a possibility but can be a more competitive environment. Shanghai nor Seoul are currently recommended for such placements.
**SAMPLE PLACEMENTS**

**SARDI Aquatics, Adelaide, Australia**  
*Marine and Freshwater Research*  
Conduct comprehensive marine and freshwater research of wild fisheries at a large aquatic center or gain experience working in a lab environment. Assist with research in aquaculture, oceanography, and catchment ecology including research to better understand the effects that modern technology and/or natural occurrences have on the environment and sensitive ecosystems.

**Flinders University-School of Biology, Adelaide, Australia**  
*Marine Biology Research Intern*  
The School of Biological Sciences is one of three Schools within the Faculty of Science & Engineering at Flinders University. The school runs extensive programs encompassing both research and teaching in biological sciences, focused into three collaborative clusters: 1) Biodiversity and Ecology; 2) Marine Biology and Aquaculture and 3) Molecular Biology and Biotechnology. The intern will be involved in research cruises that aim at studying the impact of salinity fluctuations on the plankton communities. This will involve water sampling for nutrients and other environmental parameters as well as using a fluorometer and a spectrophotometer to analyze the Chlorophyll concentration and the nutrients concentration.

**University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia**  
*Exercise Science Intern*  
Exercise and Sport Science at the University of Newcastle offers a comprehensive approach to the study of exercise as a health and sport science, encompassing all aspects of exercise for all sections of the population. The staff of the Priority Research Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition there are experts in teaching and research in exercise and sport science. Interns will be involved in one or more projects around nutrition/dietetics in sport. Previous projects include diet and exercise program for men at risk of Type 2 Diabetes; assessing fitness in stroke survivors and designing personalized exercise programs for them; and exercise training program for young people with depression.

**University of Newcastle, Newcastle, Australia**  
*Sociology Intern*  
The goal of the study that the intern will be working on is to find out how open non-Muslims are to learn more about Muslim culture, and the personal perceptions of those willing to try on traditional Muslim clothing (specifically the hijab). The intern will be creating, administering, entering data, and analyzing data from the online questionnaire.

**Universidad Del Desarrollo, Las Condes, Chile**  
*Environmental Engineering Research Intern*  
Universidad del Desarrollo is known not only for its academic excellence but also for its entrepreneurial hallmark. This feature has earned it a place of privilege in higher education in Chile and Latin America since it was founded 20 years ago. Interns will work with professors in the School of Engineering to conduct research on the interrelation between engineering, society, and sustainability. The research will focus on the Rights of Water in Chile compared to Australia and other nations.
University of Desarrollo, Santiago, Chile

Research Intern

Interns will choose a project to collaborate on which may include feasibility studies of biogas generation by seaweed or studies of waste-to-energy to assess environmental impacts and the potential generation of energy. Interns may assist in designing devices to recover and recycle materials in local communities, designing reactors to produce energy using seaweed for local communities, or designing of combustion devices. There has been a wide-range of research opportunities in the field at this university.

University of Desarrollo, Santiago, Chile

Physics Intern - Contagion Dynamics

Networks have been used extensively to study the dynamics of systems composed of many interacting units. Recently, interest has grown for a new class of networks: coevolving networks, that is, networks whose topology changes along with the dynamics. As part of a larger existing team, the intern will work with Matlab programming and NetworkX Python package for calculating network measures, and for implementing numerical simulations of the contagion dynamics in coevolving networks. Additionally, the intern will work with data from real data networks.

Goldsmiths, University of London, London, England

Cognitive Research Intern

The research project is concerned with the executive control of memory and how this relates to identity and the social world. The intern will look at social factors, such as forgiveness, and how this impacts memory performances. He/she will also assist in collecting data, transcribing, recording memories, and maintaining clinical documentation via electronic record keeping systems.

Birbeck University of London, London, England

Psychology Intern

Faculty research interests span social developmental psychology, family psychology, and lesbian and gay psychology. The research project the intern will be working with focuses on how different family structures and family processes influence children's psychosocial and psychosexual development and their relationships within their families and with their peers. The intern work on coding and analyzing questionnaire data on adolescent psychological adjustment and the opportunity to learn some qualitative analyses skills to analyze interview data.

National Institute of Water and Aquatic Research and Landcare, Auckland, New Zealand

Environmental Research Intern

Intern at New Zealand’s leading provider of sustainable development and the management of land-based natural resources or a government-owned research and consultancy company. Engage in sorting, taxonomic identification, systematic curation of rare and interesting specimens and Excel-based data entry of these preserved invertebrates.

Living Cells Technologies, Auckland, New Zealand

Biomedical Engineering Intern

Living Cells Technologies focuses on cell-based therapeutics and the development of insulin producing cells in microcapsules for the treatment of type 1 diabetes. Part of the team to encapsulate cells, the intern will acquire general knowledge and practical experience with the cell and material selection, assessment of the devices used for encapsulation, and oversight of product quality.

WeTec- Centre for Smart Product, Wellington, New Zealand

Electronic & Mechanical Engineering Intern

Wellington Institute of Technology (WeTec) is a leading research institution, internationally recognized for its advances within the Engineering and Technology fields. Interns will work with on-site engineering professionals to
help with various research and development projects. Interns are expected to undertake mechanical design activities, assist in the building of models and prototypes, help set up and carry out laboratory tests, and prepare for the running of field trials of devices and processing systems.

**Kenepuru Science Centre**, Wellington, New Zealand  
*Biowaste Research Intern*

Kenepuru Science Centre (KSC) Staff are specialists in analytical services, communicable disease forensic science, forensic toxicology, information management, pharmaceuticals, population and environmental health public health surveillance. The intern will work as part of a team with the Takahanga Marae and the Kaikoura community to characterize the concentrations, fate, and effects of contaminants found in septic tank wastes, a waste source of importance for rural communities. Field and laboratory experiments will identify the main sources of contaminants to inform options that reduce the level of contaminants in final waste product.

**Victoria University, School of Government**, Wellington, New Zealand  
*Economics Research Intern*

The Institute of Policy Studies is an independent research institution attached to the School of Government at Victoria University of Wellington New Zealand. Working in partnerships with public service is leading a series of applied public policy projects. The objective of the project is to create a robust, accessible, challenging overview of the critical drivers, trends, issues, and opportunities facing the NZ public sector over the next 10-20 years, together with a succinct analysis of the options for public management reform. The intern will assist in a literature review related to the topic, as well as a process of engagement with key stakeholders and state sector agency officials via workshops and roundtables.

**IMECO**, Valencia, Spain  
*Psychology Intern*

IMECO, the Institute of Mediation and Conciliation, is a non-profit, registered by the Department of Social Welfare of the Generalitat Valenciana. Their work focuses on youth under 16 years of age, those with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, immigrants, and those with drug dependencies. The intern will work on research projects focusing on emotional intelligence and depression.