

Student Career Experiences in Horticulture



Students will now have options for completing an Internship, a Teaching Experience, or a Research Experience as part of the revised curriculum in Horticultural Science. These experiences are not only available to help the students learn more about aspects of each area, but the agreement these Experience Hosts enter into will not only benefit them (the host) but should lead to a more well-rounded opportunity for students going forward.

Experiences will be listed on our database (at the URL below) and both students and hosts will be expected to adhere to defined standards so that both will gain something from the opportunity. Employers will need to review the appropriate Handbook and register their experience online so students can apply.

The experiences are outlined below and they should result in multiple areas of learning and not just a “job” where a host needs an individual doing tasks that might better be assigned to an hourly worker.

- Internship- This should be an opportunity where a student is able to work in multiple areas of a business. It is ideal for a student to spend equal amounts of time working in these different aspects of a job to get a well-rounded idea of how all parts of your company make the whole business work.
- Research- Students learn skills as they assist researchers in the program but must also complete their own project, with the guidance/support of the research experience host. Ideally, the student will be provided the opportunity to share their research findings with an appropriate audience.
- Teaching- A student in a teaching experience should help with class set-up, should work with students, help prepare lessons, and actually teach as part of the experience. The instructor should share a pedagogical framework of the course with the student as well as allow the student teacher to help define the course activities.



Comparisons Between the Requirements for a Part-Time Job and an Internship, Research Experience and a Teaching Experience

Part-time job	Internship	Research experience	Teaching experience
Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily a work experience 	Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily a learning experience 	Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily a learning experience 	Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily a learning experience
Salary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be paid 	Salary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May/may not be offered pay but often are paid Academic credit (HS 492) will be given to the student 	Salary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May/may not be offered pay often are paid Academic credit (HS 493) will be given to the student 	Salary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May/may not be offered pay, but often are paid Academic credit (HS 494) will be given to the student
Duration/Hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific start or end time/date By nature, it is part-time work 	Duration/Hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be part-time or full-time Typically lasts between 5-15 weeks Agreed upon termination date 	Duration/Hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be part-time or full-time Typically lasts between 5-15 weeks Agreed upon termination date 	Duration/Hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part-time Typically lasts 16 weeks Agreed upon termination date
Employer Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily supervision with little to no mentoring Hired for a specific segment/area of business 	Employer's Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentors the student and shows them the "business side" as well as teach them job skills Exposes the student to all segments of the business Provides the opportunity for a student develop a project 	Employer's Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentors the student and assists the student in defining a research project of their own to conduct Explains and demonstrates research ethics Trains student on protocols and equipment use including laboratory safety 	Employer Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentors the student and is able to show them teaching pedagogy as well as teach them job skills Exposes the student to all segments of the course Provides the opportunity for a student develop and present a lecture
University Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No faculty interaction 	University Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty help supervise students as well as guide and prepare them for the internship 	Department's role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty help supervise students as well as guide and prepare them for the research experience 	University Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Experience Coordinator help supervise students as well as guide and prepare them for the teaching experience