



Computer Science and Information Systems Internship Experience Sharing

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Project Description

Internship in Computer Science and Information Systems (CSIS) is a great way for the students to apply what they learn in academics to the professional environment. It allows the students to explore and gain the knowledge in a field before committing to the field as a career, Even though a lot of internship positions are temporary, over the years, many students have reported that they subsequently obtain permanent positions with the interned companies. This poster serves as an area for the students to share their internship experience, including timing of applying an internship, interned companies, duties of the positions, tips, and advices.

Tara Haskamp

Q: When did you start looking for internship/volunteer positions?

A: January of 2025, which was right between my junior and senior years (I do not recommend waiting that long!)

Q: Please explain your experience of getting the internship.

A: I did a Google search for computer science internships in Kansas City and looked at local companies that I was familiar with. I applied for the internship in February, had an interview scheduled about a month later and then a second interview a week and a half later (for another internship position the following week) and had an offer later that same afternoon. All together it was about a month and a half from application to offer. While I don't think that prior experience is necessarily a prerequisite in most situations, I do believe it helped me in this instance. My resume included projects that I had worked on informally as well as my workstudy experience through school. I also added my extracurricular activities on campus including my involvement with the ACM Club as well as student government.

Q: What is your internship company and location?

A. Evergy, local utility company in Kansas City

Q: What are your duties during the internship?

A: Over the summer I worked with databases to combine information from multiple tables into one centralized table for specific purposes. This involved learning Oracle Data Integrator (ODI) and then using Microsoft Power Apps to display the data in a user friendly context. I also used Microsoft Power Automate to create an automated process to send out monthly emails with the Power App that I had created. While I did not stay with the same team after the summer, I was able to extend the internship into the fall semester and have had the chance to job shadow and learn about multiple departments.

Q: What did you learn from this experience?

A. I learned so much from my experience with Evergy's internship program. They offered a really amazing program overall, but specifically within the IT department they really made the effort to educate all of us and make sure we were learning and growing. At the beginning of the summer, all of the IT teams came to a hosted lunch and we were able to talk to them individually about their area and we had a chance to learn what their job is like. We were given free reign to explore areas that might interest us outside of the team we were currently with. I talked with the cybersecurity and cloud services teams, but there were so many others to choose from as well. I learned that in many cases, the jobs are much more specific than what we learn in classes. What we learn in one semester from a single class, may encompass information that is split between 3 or 4 different teams. For example, in Information Security (IS370) we learn about a lot of different ways that companies need to protect information and it was overwhelming to even think about a career in that space. What I learned, however, is that they have a lot of those responsibilities split into different teams to address them with more intention.

Q: What are your advices to students about getting an internship?

A: Work on your resume and ask for help on how to include whatever experience you have. Get involved in something outside of classes. It doesn't necessarily have to be related to school, but it makes a difference when you are showing up outside of class time to improve in some way. Find ways to make those experiences relatable on your resume. Involvement with sports shows teamwork. Being president of a club or getting involved with student government shows leadership and commitment. If you volunteer regularly, that shows consistency and responsibility. When you don't have the relevant previous job experience, all you can rely on is what you have done and how you can relate it to being a good employee.

Q. Any additional comments?

A: When you get an interview, be sure to ask them what they hope for YOU to gain from the internship. If you aren't able to stay with the company after the internship, what experiences and knowledge will you have gained that will help you find a job in the future? Also, don't be afraid to talk about things that are relevant to soft skills that have nothing to do with the position. During the interview I had mentioned a random instance where I had made an effort to help the campus radio station in some form and it turns out that the person I interviewed with had gone to Park and had worked on the radio station. It was a complete coincidence, but you never know when a small connection like that can help leave a meaningful impression.

Alessandro Tolin

International Student

Q: When did you start looking for internship/volunteer positions?

A: I started in Fall 2023 at the beginning of the semester.

Q: Please explain your experience of getting the internship.

A: I found out about UGA Finance from my teammates. A lot of volleyball players have worked there.

Q: What is your internship company and location?

A. UGA Finance, located across Julian Field is a third party billing provider which works with multiple American companies including Aroma 360, Laser Away, Milan Laser, UEL College etc.

Q: What are your duties during the internship?

A. I work as a web developer in the IT Department, and as of now I run daily processes needed to keep the business active (sending out statements is an example). I'm also working on some automation projects.

Q: What did you learn from this experience?

A. How to use Excel properly, Visual Studio Code, Salesforce, desktop, Filezilla, Workato, CMD Prompt and dataloader.

Q: What are your advices to students about getting an internship?

A: It will open your mind completely. You will learn so many things that you will need for your classes. But the biggest thing is that you will learn how a business works.

Q. Any additional comments?

A: I recommend all the students to do an internship.

Anonymous

Parkville main campus student

Q: When did you start looking for internship/volunteer positions?

A: I began looking for internship opportunities from the moment I started Park University.

Q: Please explain your experience of getting the internship.

A: I was actually referred to the Park ITS department from Professor David Monchusie after a particularly disheartening experience on an interview. He reviewed some code I had submitted to another position and said that my code looked reasonable for someone looking for an internship given the particular requirements in the email I had gotten. I showed him what the interview said he was looking for and he stated that it was just someone looking for an expert level C# coder that they could pay a minimum salary. So he spoke to Wade Tripp on my behalf and helped me get an interview and ultimately an internship.

Q: What is your internship company and location?

A: Park University's IT department on the Park Campus.

Q: What are your duties during the internship?

A: I developed (and am still developing) the Park University Roommate Web app, which helps international students find roommates. I use ASP, C#, and SQL to create a functioning website that collects student information through a form and stores it in an SQL database for other users to access. I am currently working on a daily executable task that monitors students' close dates and automates email alerts, reminding them to take action or letting their postings close.

Q: What did you learn from this experience?

A: I applied full-stack development fundamentals and learned a new coding language I hadn't used before interning with Wade. I also learned secure coding methods, like using stored procedures, which I hadn't encountered in my coursework. Beyond technical skills, I improved my problem-solving and project management skills by working on a real-world application from start to finish. I also gained practical experience with the agile method of the SDLC by deploying my partially functional app and adding new features over time.

Q: What are your advices to students about getting an internship?

A: Keep applying! Networking is your greatest ally. I'm not naturally good at networking, but by demonstrating diligence and showcasing my skills, I was able to land an internship. Don't be afraid to reach out to professors or mentors they can connect you to opportunities you might not find otherwise.

Q: Any additional comments?

A: Working with Wade and the ITS department was a great learning experience. For students interested in similar opportunities, it can be worthwhile to contact the department directly or ask professors for recommendations.