Internship Information Session 2018-2019
For Business/Management students at Solvay Business School

Course requirements and processes

Prof. dr. Michaël Dooms (BUSI) & VUB Career Center
AGENDA

• Parties involved and processes
• Credited Internship (inside the curriculum)
• Non-credited Internship (outside the curriculum)
  ▪ During the studies
  ▪ After the studies
STRUCTURE (during studies @ VUB)

Credited internship optional/compulsory in programme

- MSc International Business
- MSc Business and Technology
- MSc TEW/TEW: Handelsingenieur

6 or 12 ECTS?

- Slides 6 - 19
  - Additional internship?
    - No: End of programme
    - Yes: Contact VUB Career Center, slides 20-21

Credited internship not optional/compulsory in programme

- MSc Management
- MSc Bedrijfskunde

Additional internship?

- No: End of programme
- Yes: Contact VUB Career Center, slides 20-21
**IMPORTANT DISTINCTION**

• Credited internship (= within programme, either compulsory or as optional course) => **Faculty** and VUB Career Center

• Non-credited internship (= outside programme) => **VUB Career Center** as only contact point

• Faculty does not accept credit contracts for internship (i.e. taking up the internship as a “loose” course)
COMMUNICATION WITH FACULTY

• **Always:**
  • Use: [internship.business@vub.be](mailto:internship.business@vub.be): this will speed up the process as it is read by multiple persons. Kindly use a subject line:
    • E.g. “Internship approval”; “Internship request”; “Internship report” etc.
  • **Avoid by all means using our personal e-mail addresses**
  • Send reminder if no answer after 3 working days (normally reply within the day)
  • Before asking a question, make sure you have read this document as well as the online course description
VUB Career Center (Adecco)

• **Who are we?**
  • On campus service for students: first steps onto the labour market
  • Coaching your search & application procedure: Internships & Jobs
  • To help you find the job you're looking for!

• **What do we offer?**
  • Internship orientation and a wide variety of internships on our website!
  • **Website:** All companies can contact us freely to post their vacancies on our website

• **Where can you find us?**

  • **CAMPUS ETTERBEEK:** Building B, B0.11, Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Elsene
careercenter@vub.ac.be 02 629 11 88

INTERNSHIP INSIDE CURRICULUM (1)

• **MSc in International Business / MBT:**
  • Optional course
    • Entitled professor: Michaël Dooms
  • Choice between:
    • 6 ECTS: minimum 20 full time workdays
    • 12 ECTS: minimum 40 full time workdays
  • Additional elements:
    • Can be performed any time / period during the 2 year Master program
    • No maximum duration
    • Work scheme flexibility (e.g. 2 days per week for 10 weeks)
    • International internships allowed / encouraged
    • **It is not possible to combine 2 credited internships at different organizations**
    • **We never accept internships performed without our prior approval (e.g. internships you would have performed before)**
MSc in TEW: Handelsingenieur:

- Optional course (choice within compulsory practice course)
  - Entitled professor: Michaël Dooms
- Choice between:
  - 6 ECTS: minimum 20 full time workdays
  - 12 ECTS: minimum 40 full time workdays (but no ‘elective’ possibility as the 6 ECTS elective will be added to the 6 ECTS compulsory practice course)

Additional elements:

1. Can be performed any time / period during the 2 year Master program as well as before the start of the 1st Master year
2. No maximum duration
3. Work scheme flexibility (e.g. 2 days per week for 10 weeks)
4. International internships allowed / encouraged
5. It is not possible to combine 2 credited internships in different organizations into one of 12 ECTS (only exception: tutoring project)
INTERNSHIP INSIDE CURRICULUM (3)

• MSc in TEW:
  • Optional course (choice within a specialization)
    • Entitled professor: Michaël Dooms
  • One possibility: 6 ECTS: minimum 20 full time workdays
  • Additional elements:
    1. Can be performed any time / period during the 1 year Master program as well as during the summer period before the start of the 1st Master year
    2. No maximum duration
    3. Work scheme flexibility (e.g. 2 days per week for 10 weeks)
    4. International internships allowed / encouraged
    5. Internship does not necessarily need to relate to the chosen specialization
COURSE OBJECTIVES (1)

• Cooperate on a specific project within the organization (=> problem definition); examples are:
  • Market research and analysis
  • Functional analysis of business processes
  • New process implementation
  • Company data analysis (process, department or organizational level)
  • ...

• Performing daily operational activities is not the core objective! (but of course, sometimes needed to execute / understand the project):
  • Except if these are in line with Master’s competencies e.g. monthly or annual closings of the accounts, audit or accounting tasks requiring Master level skills and competencies (so NOT: booking accounts receivable; personnel admin; etc.).
  • Some tasks such as “event organization” and “direct sales/telemarketing” are also difficult.

• Private, public (government), not-for-profit organizations are allowed
COURSE OBJECTIVES (2)

- **Reporting:**
  - Read the official course description! (Via faculty website – programme or CANVAS)
  - Check your e-mail (VUB account) e.g. detailed explanation of the process, changes in the process, etc.
  - Examples of good practice are available at our offices (make an appointment)
  - Grading based on elements outlined on the course description, and general criteria (i.e. structure, language, argumentation, critical reflection,...)
  - If the internship period exceeds the reporting deadline set out on the course description, we will set an alternative reporting deadline (contact us)
PROCEDURE (1): parties

• Four entities intervene:
  • The student
  • The faculty
  • The company / organization providing the internship
  • The VUB Career Center
PROCEDURE (2): search

• On an **individual basis**, entitled professor as “last resort”

• **Supported by the VUB Career Center** (website: [www.vub.ac.be/careercenter](http://www.vub.ac.be/careercenter))
  - Contact Career Center (e-mail: careercenter@vub.ac.be) for additional information or practical issues.
  - Browse our JOBBOARD for internships

*Didn’t find what you are looking for on our website?*

  • Make an appointment for internship orientation and personal coaching:
    ✓ How to search for a good internship (national/international)
    ✓ VUB Career Center and Randstad company network
    ✓ CV & motivation support
    ✓ Tips & tricks on doing your interview
PROCEDURE: approval (1)

- Fill in the internship form (CANVAS or https://student.vub.be/en/es#regulations-and-forms) and send via e-mail to Internship.Business@vub.be BEFORE THE START OF THE INTERNSHIP (Allow at least 2 weeks, no signatures needed in this stage, no visits to the university)
  - Pay attention to a good and detailed description of the assignment, bearing in mind the course objectives!
  - Use the form on the faculty website or on CANVAS (not the VUB Career Center form!)
  - After approval (by e-mail), the VUB Career Center, located building B, ground level, will draft a contract for you to print 3-fold and contact you for signature(s) – see next slide
PROCEDURE: approval (2)

Support by the VUB Career Center:

**After approval** a contract will be drafted based on your internship form:
- Receive your contract by email
- Print it out in threefold
- Sign it yourself
- Let the company sign
- Bring back your three copies to the VUB Career Center
- You will receive an email from us when the Dean has signed
- You can pick up your contracts

**Attention:** Keep in mind to start this procedure at least 2 weeks before you actually start your internship!
PROCEDURE: during & after

• During the internship:
  • If any problem arises, please contact the entitled professor asap
  • No need for interim reporting (optional)

• After the internship:
  • Written report following guidelines on course description (CANVAS or CALI).
  • Anonymous evaluation by the company (e-survey)
  • Evaluation by yourself (e-survey)
  • Support by the VUB Career Center
PROCEDURE: after

What do we offer?

• Map your internship experience and acquired competences
• Job orientation
• Individual and group coaching: CV & motivation, job interview techniques, etc.
• VUB Career Center website and Adecco network

Stop by at the VUB Career Center after your internship to find out what we can do for you!

CAMPUS ETTERBEEK: Building B, B0.11, Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Elsene
careercenter@vub.ac.be 02 629 11 88
POINTS OF ATTENTION

• Remuneration: = optional, between yourself and the company / organization you work for

• Assignment: stay close to the course description and objectives (avoid 100% admin work)

• But: most internship assignments, like your “real” job afterwards, require admin work!

• Be aware that you represent the university and your MSc program as well, so impeccable behavior is expected!

• Pay attention to your e-mail regarding general aspects of the process
Internship Outside Curriculum (1)

- For Bachelor and Master students without internship courses within their programmes (e.g. MSc Management, MSc Bedrijfskunde)
- Also for additional internships on top of mandatory internship
- Internship offers and contracts:
  - Nederlandstalige versie: www.vub.ac.be/careercenter
- Faculty does not administratively support internships outside programmes
- Faculty does not provide internships under the form of a credit contract
The internship can be accepted if:

- It is linked to the study domain and the tasks are in line with the level of the study degree
  - So no lower skilled admin work (be aware that abuse exists)
  - VUB Career Center will contact faculty in case of doubt
- Administrative handling by the VUB Career Center (location ground floor building B)
  - Search for an internship
  - Contract arrangements
  - Contact: internships@vub.ac.be
  - Other career services also available