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| **INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP,EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION |

**Guidelines for Academic Credit**

*Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Internship Program*

All undergraduate students in Agricultural Environmental Sciences Communication (AESC) at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln are required to complete an internship experience for credit in order to graduate from the program. The internship can be with an organization, business, or association of the student’s choice but must be approved by the Agricultural Journalism internship faculty coordinator prior to start. The position should be primarily focused on communications and preferably related to agriculture or natural resources. Following are the basic requirements for an internship experience to count for credit:

* Communications focus – public relations, advertising, marketing communications, broadcasting, journalism or other closely related area.
* Provide approximately 400 hours of work experience. In most cases this is 10 weeks of full-time employment (40 hours per week) but the hours can be adjusted to meet the needs of the employer.
* Student is to have responsibility that provides hands-on learning or application of communications skills and/or concepts. While clerical work is a part of any job to some degree, this should not be the primary responsibility of the internship.

* The student and the internship faculty coordinator will develop a set of learning objectives for the experience. These then will be shared with the internship supervisor for feedback. The objectives help guide the student’s learning experience while also informing everyone of the student’s interests and expectations. The objectives can be adjusted during the experience as opportunities change.

* When logistically possible, the internship faculty coordinator will complete a site visit to the student’s place of employment approximately half way through the internship experience.

* The faculty internship coordinator will be in communication with the student throughout the summer, providing discussion questions and encouraging all UNL Agricultural Journalism students to discuss various aspects of their experience amongst each other.

* Junior standing is a prerequisite. It is recommended that the internship take place the summer following your junior year. Complete and provide an Internship Application to the department internship coordinator the semester before the internship begins. Upon approval, enroll in ALEC 495B the semester following your internship experience. Students will give a presentation for department faculty, staff, and students and the supervisor if available. In addition, students will develop a communications piece that summarizes their internship experience.

Questions about the Agricultural Journalism internship requirements should be directed to the faculty coordinator:

Roger Terry – 108 ACB - Lincoln, NE 68583 – rterry2@unl.edu - 402-472-2817