

Guidelines for Academic Credit

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communication 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 AESC internship faculty coordinator prior to starting. 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 a primary responsibility of the intern.
- The student and the internship faculty coordinator will develop a set of learning objectives for the experience. These 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. If a site visit is not possible, then a visit with the intern and supervisor by phone will suffice.
- The faculty internship coordinator will be in communication with the student throughout the summer, providing discussion questions and encouraging AESC students to reflect on and discuss various aspects of their experience.
- 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 program internship coordinator the semester before the internship begins. Upon approval, enroll in ALEC 495B for 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 final report and portfolio that summarizes their internship experience.

Questions about the Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communication internship requirements should be directed to the faculty coordinator:

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