



Australia's
Global
University

Science Work Placement Course (SCIF2199)

The Science Work Placement course allows students to gain a genuine experience of working in a science or technology related workplace. It is expected that students will work in an area related to their major of study, for a minimum of 105 hours. Interns are expected to contribute to a project or series of activities set up by the organisation. While the host will provide a supervisor and a safe working environment for the intern, students will also be managed by an academic course coordinator throughout the placement to ensure they are fully supported throughout the experience.

Our students come from a wide range of science backgrounds. Majors of study include:

Anatomy	Food Science	Neuroscience
Bioinformatics	Genetics	Pathology
Biology	Geography	Pharmacology
Biotechnology	Marine Science	Physics
Chemistry	Materials Science	Physiology
Climate Science	Mathematics	Statistics
Earth Science	Microbiology	
Ecology	Molecular & Cell Biology	

105-hour placement -
full-time and
part-time options

Paid and unpaid
placements accepted

Flexible placement
dates –
students available all
year round

If you would like to participate as an Internship Host, please contact: science.industry@unsw.edu.au

Student Experience Coordinator, Faculty of Science

Violet Hueston

P: +61 (2) 9385 7504

E: v.hueston@unsw.edu.au

Lecturer & Academic Coordinator, SCIF2199

Dr Suzanne Schibeci

P: +61 (2) 9385 5437

E: suzanne.schibeci@unsw.edu.au

What is expected of the internship host?

In addition to providing a safe working environment and meaningful work experience, the industry supervisor will also provide a brief report at the conclusion of the internship, which will comprise 10% of the intern's assessment.

What sort of work do interns do?

The nature of the work conducted by the intern will depend on the organisation and varies from placement to placement. As host organisation you will provide an experience that is authentic, and directly linked to the student's chosen field. Activities that an intern may undertake include a combination of the following:

- shadowing members of staff in science-related roles
- contributing in an assisting capacity to a range of activities
- being a team member on a project for the duration of the internship
- participating in an individual project that can be completed within the hours of the placement
- office-based tasks including data entry, literature searches, or preparation of figures for presentation/marketing materials
- hands on laboratory or field-based activities.

Interns will also be required to complete online university assessments as part of the subject, which will be graded by the course co-ordinator on a pass/fail basis.

What preparation can you expect of an intern?

Interns will normally be enrolled in the later years of their degree and will bring the experience of tertiary study in science and technology subjects. Before embarking on their placement, interns will participate in a compulsory induction online module that will prepare them for the expectations of your placement. Interns can be selected based on their major, academic standing, co-curricular activities. You can directly manage the selection of students or we can assist you with shortlisting candidates. We will also work with you to advertise the internship to specific cohorts of students.

When can student placements take place?

Student enrolment aligns with our teaching periods. Internship dates do not need to match up perfectly with the teaching periods but student assessments and the supervisor's report will need to be submitted at the end of the enrolled teaching period, so the student can receive academic credit. Students may undertake internships that exceed the minimum 105 hours, if students are aware and agree beforehand. Internships can be run over a long period of time or more intensely, but please note that many students will have other study and work commitments that will impact on their availability.

From February 2019, UNSW is launching UNSW3+, a new academic calendar which will enable students to build work experiences into their degree in any term, giving employers access to our students all year round.

2019 Term Dates

Term 1	18 February – 18 May
Term 2	3 June – 31 August
Term 3	16 September – 14 December
Summer term	6 January – 12 February

2020 Term Dates: student.unsw.edu.au/calendar

Commercial considerations

Agreements

A formal agreement is established between the University and the host organisation. The program meets the requirements of a 'vocational placement' in accordance with the Fair Work Act 2009.

Health and Safety

Host organisations must have a commitment to safe work practices and comply with the Work Health and Safety Act 2011. Any disagreements, incidents or near accidents must be reported promptly to the Course Convenor.

Worker's compensation and insurance

The student is covered comprehensively against accident or injury under the University's student insurance policy. The University maintains Public Liability and Professional Indemnity insurance that covers any liability of the University and the student in relation to the placement, and the host organisation is expected to also maintain appropriate Public Liability insurance. Worker's Compensation does not apply if the internship is unpaid.