

Intern WALL OF FAME

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I've learned a lot from my internship! Fredonia has a great education program and I've learned a lot here, but within my first two weeks I met some teachers and administrators from Buffalo that were helpful in finding out what it's really like out there in the real schools. I learned about lesson plans, curriculum guides, and what teachers look for in a lesson plan. I created my own lesson plan template and showed a few lessons to these awesome educators. My job is to create lesson plans on the Great Lakes for their new environmental networking website for teachers. I am also finding online activities for students to use. These will be accessible to teachers and students throughout Western New York. After I presented a lesson to a panel of experienced teachers and administrators, I was incredible nervous. I had almost no confidence in my lessons but after working with Dr. Jabot on campus it has given my lessons more confidence and they have become more creative. My main focus is to prove that environmental education is not strictly a science thing. So far I have definitely reached my goal!

My internship experience has been FANTASTIC! At first I was really nervous about having deadlines and answering to a real boss, but I have met wonderful people who incredibly supporting. This internship was a new title for them, as well as my first internship, so it has definitely proven to be a learning experience on both ends. I have been asked to continue working with the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo along with their youth section and their new website. I have already expressed that I plan to use their new website once it is up and running and I foresee a long-term relationship with them.

I would recommend this internship to other students. Even though lesson plans are a pain to write, it is great experience that can be put into your portfolio. This gave me a chance to explore something I was very interested in, as well as sharing my interest with other professionals. The net working availability (both on and off campus) of this is also a great reason as to why students should do it. As scary is it is to get out there in the real world, it is much more beneficial to do it while you're in school and have the resources to help you if you start to struggle. The people you will be interning for understand that you're a busy college student. It has also improved my time-management!

I would advise fellow students to look into things you are interested in! I found this internship on my own through other groups and I have loved my experience. This was my connection between my major of education and my passion for the environment. Take opportunities because you might not get them again. To be honest, I can relate my internship back to a text message from a friend. Be on the lookout for things that catch your eye!

The CDO was very helpful for me when I was signing up for my internship. I had gotten the internship independently over winter break and I was hesitant to try to get credit for it through Fredonia. After making the initial contacts they were extremely helpful and very encouraging!