Waikato Management School
Centre for Internships and Business Experience
Guide for students
We provide amazing opportunities for our students to gain valuable, hands-on experience in their chosen field through a management internship, known as the MNGT496/596 paper. You could find yourself working at a relevant organisation in New Zealand or overseas, for 1-2 days a week, over 15-20 weeks. This is a chance to apply your classroom learning to a challenging project in a real workplace setting, under the guidance of mentors. You can do the MNGT496/596 internship as part of a bachelor’s degree, an honours degree, a postgraduate diploma, or for the Master of Management Studies.

Where can I do an internship?

Since 2010, we have placed more than 200 interns in a wide range of organisations:

- Small-to-medium enterprises (Phoenix Group, Bettle Advertising, Eagle Air, Miraka)
- Large corporations (Mainfreight)
- Big Four accounting firms (PwC, Deloitte)
- Educational and sports organisations (Wintec, Sport Waikato, Avantidrome)
- Not-for-profits (Life Unlimited)
- Local government and public sector (Taupo District Council, Waikato District Health Board)

RYAN BURNS
MNGT596 internship with OPRA Consulting Group, Queen St, Auckland
Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons)

“By the end of my 20-week internship, I felt I had added value and made a meaningful difference to OPRA, and differentiated myself from other graduates in the job market. I have seen first-hand how much harder it is for graduates with little or no experience to gain a top job in their field.

Since completing the internship I have started a graduate role as a junior consultant with OPRA, all thanks to this opportunity.

The sponsor organisations taking part are of the highest calibre. They provide the opportunity to gain skills that can’t be learnt in a classroom, providing the missing piece of the puzzle by combining theory with reality.

I had a great mentor who had a big impact on my professional development and guided me through the realities of the business world.”
Key benefits of an internship

- Gain practical experience and develop more self-confidence
- Differentiate your CV from other job seekers
- Enhance your employability
- Expand your horizons
- Develop valuable networks in NZ or overseas

How does the process work?

Interview stage

- You will be interviewed by the course convenors. If your application is successful, you will be given access to the MNGT496/596 Facebook group, where projects are advertised.
- If you see a project that interests you, we will send your CV to the organisation, who will arrange to interview you.
- If your interview is successful, you enrol in the MNGT496/596 paper and start your internship, at a time agreed by both parties.

Project stage

- Keep an online journal of your reflections on the internship project.
- Meet with your organisational mentor and academic supervisor every fortnight to discuss the project and receive feedback.
- Present a major report or portfolio to your sponsor and the Centre for Internships and Business Experience.

The internship is 100% internally assessed. This includes the following:

- Major report or portfolio
- Online journal
- Reflective assignment
- Final presentation
- Organisation assessment

KENDL HAMBLY

MNGT496 internship with Fallenfront men’s fashion and accessories retailer, Raglan
Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons)

“I joined the Fallenfront team as a marketing intern and immersed myself in researching and analysing their target markets, competitors and industry trends.

After pulling together my collection of research, I provided Fallenfront with a number of brand strategy recommendations. For example, the market research and industry trend analyses that I undertook revealed a number of website extensions that Fallenfront could consider to increase customer satisfaction.

This internship experience gave me the motivation to seek out a job as an account executive at TRACTA, a marketing agency that specialises in the rural sector. Our clients include John Deere, FarmIQ, and Massey University.

Now my role involves client visits, project management, and liaising with creatives to provide the best possible marketing solution for the client, as well as quoting and invoicing.

I believe that Waikato Management School’s internship programme helps to set our business graduates apart from others.”
Looking to find that perfect job after university?

A Waikato Management School internship will give you an edge over other university graduates, and help kick-start your career.

If you want to work in business, then you need to start practising your craft in the real world as soon as possible.

If you feel nervous about the prospect of an internship, then it’s a good sign you actually need that challenge to help you reach your goals. And it works – all of our interns have found fantastic jobs after graduating.

For more information, visit our website:

management.ac.nz/internship

What are the next steps if I wish to apply?

1. Check that you meet the following criteria:

   - Passed all of the compulsory 200-level and 300-level papers for your degree
   - Achieved a GPA of 5 or higher
   - Have some extra-curricula experience, such as a part-time job, volunteering, or academic/sporting/cultural achievements

2. To apply, email internships@waikato.ac.nz with:

   - Your current CV and a covering letter
   - An up-to-date academic transcript

Contact us

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Email: internships@waikato.ac.nz