ECON 303 Co-op Education: Economics

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Course Description:

The internship is designed to enhance your understanding of how an organization uses economic concepts and analysis to inform their strategic and day-to-day decision making. In particular, you will explore how key economic concepts that you have learned in the classroom are transferred to practical situations within your organization. Examples of economic concepts include: opportunity cost, estimating demand, analysis of competitive forces, evaluating market structures, understanding costs, pricing, calculating elasticities, predicting future sales, assessment of how incentives impact outcomes, evaluation of policy outcomes, etc.

Pre-Requisites:

The requirements for the internship co-op include:
(i) Fifty-five hours of completed coursework with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75/4.0
(ii) Completion of BUAD 101, 102, 201, 202.
(iii) Approval of the Department of Economics.

Grading Policy:

The final grade will be determined on the basis of an internship paper (50%) and evaluation of your Internship Supervisor at your organization (50%). The due date for the paper will be agreed upon once the internship has started. Late submission of the paper will result in a loss of 10 points per day late. If the weighted average of your three scores is 90 or higher, you will receive an A for the internship. Weighted average scores of 80-89, 70-79, and 60-69, will receive grades of B, C, and D respectively. A score below 60 is a failing grade.
Internship Paper:

The internship paper is a requirement for successful completion of this course. This paper should be approximately 10-12 pages (doubled spaced) in length. The structure of this paper should include the following elements:

(1) Title page for your internship paper including your name and contact information.

(2) Introduction section including a discussion of the purpose and scope of the internship, as well as a brief description of the organization and your specific department in that organization.

(3) Job duties section containing a discussion of your specific job duties and how they relate to the goals of the organization, including the seminars and meetings you are required to attend and what, in particular, you are expected to learn from these interactions.

(4) Learning beyond the classroom section which contains an articulation on how you course-work helped you to discharge your day-to-day work responsibilities and enhanced your understanding of the organization’s strategy, as well as a discussion of the specific economic concepts and/or techniques and skills that you used to analyze and examine decision making within the department of your organization. In addition, you should discuss how your internship program will impact your education and your career.

(5) Evaluation of expectations section including a description of the lessons you learned, and insights you gained through your internship experience that you did not anticipate before the beginning of the internship. Explain why you feel these lessons and insights are valuable to your education and to your career.

(6) Conclusion and evaluation section containing any recommendation you can make for improving the internship experience.

(7) Bibliography showing all sources used for your paper, with each one clearly referenced.

(8) Appendices showing any tables and figures associated with your paper.

The paper is due by email no later than Monday of final exam week.

WCB Mission Statement:

“We educate students of business enabling them to improve organizations and society, consistent with the Jesuit tradition.”