

Internship

Institution:	Joint program component
Year:	Year 1 (counts towards Year 2)
Course type:	Core program component: practical component
ECTS:	3

Brief description (including learning outcomes):

Internships are a mandatory component of Mundus MAPP, and are designed to provide hands-on experience in public policy research, analysis and practice. The aim of the internship component is to facilitate the students' (re)integration into the international job market upon graduation, build networks and professional contacts at hosting organizations, and allow students to apply and re-examine theoretical knowledge gained through the coursework in light of actual experience.

Internships will take place in a relevant organization of the students' choice, such as think tanks, international organizations, national and international NGOs, professional bodies, government agencies and embassies, or research organizations. The tasks students undertake during the internship will vary greatly depending on the host institution's profile and expectations, but must involve substantive work such as drafting policy documents, collecting, processing and analyzing relevant data, interacting with stakeholders, or research. Work that could typically be done by an intern is a baseline survey, an inventory and first analysis of data, a comparative analysis of findings of different evaluations, a literature study for policy preparation, or preparatory study for lobby and advocacy.

Internships last one month and, depending on mobility track, take place after other academic requirements are completed in year one but before the academic year starts in year two; i.e., typically in the summer for CEU track students, and the month of September for ISS track students. Although exceptionally internships and thesis report writing can run parallel (with permission from ISS/CEU), students are strongly encouraged to complete their thesis reports first. Internships must be completed by the time teaching starts in year 2 at York / Barcelona. In exceptional circumstances, such as medical reasons or other mitigating circumstances, internships may be delayed to the second year; this needs to be approved by both the first and second year institution.

Students will be asked to confirm the host organization and the period of internship during the first academic year well in advance of the summer.

Consortium institutions will support internship arrangements by providing information, advice and letters of recommendation (as needed), but securing a placement is the student's own responsibility. For CEU track students, internships may be substituted with 'Policy labs', whereby teams of students work on a consulting project for a specific client under faculty supervision during the academic year. The credit value of Policy Labs will be the same as internships, but assessment methods and the timing will differ. CEU track students will be provided with further information on Policy Labs by CEU upon enrolment. CEU-track students may complete an internship as well as Policy Lab, in which case the latter will count as an elective course taken for Pass or Fail, therefore not affecting the final GPA.

By completing this module, students will have

- To combine and apply the knowledge obtained in previous work and during the study undertaken at the consortium institutions
- Obtain insights in the mission and policy of the hosting organization
- Obtain hands-on practical work experience

Learn to report about the internship in a concise summary.