COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: MA in International Development

Level: 7

Course Title: Internship

Course Code: DEV 7902

Course Leader: Dr Michael Keating

Student Engagement Hours: 200-240
Seminars: 39
Tutorials: 6
Independent / Guided Learning: 155-195

Semester: Summer

Credits: 20 UK CATS credits
10 ECTS credits
4 US credits

Course Description:
A 3-5/days a week work placement of approximately three months (depending on the requirements of the organization in question; a minimum of 9 weeks) within an organization to enable students to participate in graduate level experiential learning and so develop hands-on skills and professional experience which will prepare them for work in the field of international relations. Placements are supervised, career-related work experiences combined with reflective, academic study that help students 'learn by doing'. During the internship, the staff of the Internship Office and the MA internship faculty supervisor work closely with each student and the organisation to ensure that the placement is a successful one.

Pre-requisites: MA International Development students only

Aims and Objectives:
- To provide students with an opportunity to participate in graduate-level experiential learning

- To develop the hands-on skills needed for a particular professional environment
- To prepare students for work in the field of international relations
- To reflect upon work experience and possible future career paths
- To consider the application of learned academic knowledge within a professional context
- To develop students' professional communication skills, including written and oral communication

Programme Outcomes:
N/A (the course is optional not core; programme outcomes are not assessed)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:
https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:
- deploy the skills and experience required to work in the field of international relations

Indicative Content:
- critical reflection on the internship experience
- the range of career pathways possible within the field of international relations
- hands-on skills within a specific sector of the field of international relations
- writing within a professional context
- verbal communication and presentation skills within a professional context
- how to approach the search for an internship

Assessment:
This course conforms to the Richmond University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:
'Experiential Learning involves direct encounter with the phenomena or discipline being studied and the learning is achieved through reflection upon the everyday experiences' (Houle 1980). The Internship program utilizes these ideas and assists student with the process of self-learning support by a faculty supervisor. Faculty supervision will be in a combination of meetings, correspondence through email, and assessment of written work.

Bibliography:
- Cottrell, S. (2003). *Skills for Success*. (London: Palgrave).
- Keating, M. F. and J. D. Boys. (2009). 'The Policy Brief: Building Practical and Academic Skills in International Relations and Political Science', in *Politics* 29(3), October, pp.201-8.
- Steffes, J. S. (2004). 'Creative Powerful Learning Environments beyond the Classroom', in *Change* 34(3), pp46-51.
- Varner, I.I. & Palmer, T.M. (2005) 'Role of Cultural Self-Knowledge in Successful Expatriation', in *Singapore Management Review* Vol 27 Issue 1, pp1-26.

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

---

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Minor	Change in formatting in line with updated CSD template	School (Chair's Action), 26th January 2015	
Minor	Change 'IND' to 'DEV' in course code	School (Chair's Action), 26th January 2015	
Minor	Change 'Autumn' to 'Summer' in semester	School (Chair's Action), 26th January 2015	