



CLUSTER UNIVERSITY SRINAGAR

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Media Internship Guidelines

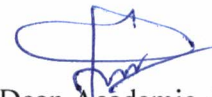
As part of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Cluster University Srinagar, the Honors/Integrated programme in Journalism & Mass Communication run at Govt. College for Women, M.A. Road, Srinagar has a compulsory 'Internship' component as part of the curriculum approved by Board of Studies held in April 2018. The internship part was retained for the integrated programme, introduced with 2021 session/batch, in the Board of Studies meeting held on December 18, 2021. The stated aim of the 4-week internship in case of 2019 and 2020 Batches and 6-8 week internship in case of the 5-year Integrated programme (2021 batch onwards) is to provide industry exposure to students whereby they would get valuable on-the-job practical experience of the field. However, in order to ensure better regulation of the internship, students need to follow certain guidelines in letter and spirit as listed below:

1. Students shall not pursue internship any time before semester 6 (in case of 2020 Batch) and before semester 9 (in case of 2021 and subsequent batches) without the prior intimation and approval by the university.
2. Students shall, on their own or assisted by the department, explore a suitable organization offering internship opportunity in any field related to Mass Communication and Journalism including Content Writing, Reporting, Editing, Photography, Advertising, Public Relations, Anchoring, Video/Audio Production etc.
3. Once an organization is identified, students need to apply for official approval from the university through Dean Social Sciences. If the application is approved, the student will be intimated and provided official letter for the internship provider.
4. Once the student or department receives a response from the internship provider verifying that the internship has been offered and approved, the Dean's office shall be notified and the internship added to the student's schedule.
5. Students shall not make any agreements with the internship provider or commit to an internship until the internship application has been approved by the university.
6. Internship shall be completed in the final semester, in case of 2020 batch, and 9th semester in case of 2021 and subsequent batches, preferably during vacations. Internship

can help students gain entry-level career skills and provide both experience and a fresh, non-academic reference to improve job prospects. To this end, an organization must have the means to mentor and support an intern.

7. These guidelines are meant to eschew the practice of students working unauthorizedly with private organizations at the cost of their regular class work. They are also aimed to prevent any instances of students posing as regular or full-time journalists and misusing press credentials.
8. The guidelines shall also help avoid exploitation element since some opportunities advertised as internships are actually volunteer or contract work wherein the students are asked to work independently, using knowledge and skills they already have, often without pay.

Any departure from the aforementioned guidelines by a student shall be deemed as violation of the university norms on his/her part and the student shall be liable for disciplinary action. Furthermore, any complaint regarding the conduct of students while interning with any government, semi-government or private organization shall be probed and, if found true, draw strict action as per the university norms. Meanwhile, the university shall also explore other means to foster the industry-academia linkage.



Dean Academic Affairs
Cluster University Srinagar