

JMU English majors and minors:

Internship opportunities for Fall 2023 are here!

Yes! You can earn academic credit towards graduation by applying your skills from the English classroom to new projects in a variety of professional settings!

Why participate in internships? Internships and Research Assistantships offer English majors and minors an opportunity to explore career options; apply and enhance skills acquired through their English classes; engage in research with English professors; and build multi-faceted work experience.

Employers across industries consistently report that they want to hire college grads who have advanced skills in writing, editing, communications, research, critical thinking, and collaboration. And these are *precisely* the abilities students acquire and strengthen through the study of literatures! Plus, employers love to see professional experiences on your resumé.

Which internship will be right for you? Read the choices below, and apply today!

Internship Opportunities with English 294, Fall 2023

Internships in the English Department ~ unpaid, for credit

Research Internship with Dr. Godfrey

Dr. Godfrey is seeking a research assistant to finalize the transfer of several roundtable panel recordings and transcriptions related to the Black Studies, Black Spaces at JMU project to JMU Special Collections for long-term preservation. Work may include writing summaries and short biographies, editing transcripts, editing audio files, collecting permission forms, consulting with panelists involved with the project, and consulting with JMU Library staff. 3 hours per week (1 credit). Please contact Dr. Godfrey (godfrema@jmu.edu) for more information or to apply.

Social Media Intern for the English Department

The English Department seeks a social media intern to work on projects related to the promotion, and outreach, of the major and minors housed within the department. The intern will gain experience in graphic design, content writing, and article interviews, as well as gain experience in creating and editing content for print publication and multiple social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. The internship can be taken for variable credit (1-3 credit hours) and the intern will work with Angela Carter, marketing specialist in the Department of English and Dr. Becky Childs, Academic Unit Head in the Department of English. Please contact Prof. Becky Childs (childsrl@jmu.edu) for more information or to apply for this position.

Internships with other JMU programs ~ unpaid, for credit

Storytelling/Communications Internship with Student Awards, Initiatives, and Research

The Office of Student Awards, Initiatives, and Research works to enhance student educational experiences at and beyond JMU. We house the Office of Fellowships and Awards, Student Creative Activities and Research, and much more. We are looking for interns (1-3 credits) who want to learn more about telling great stories through web articles, social media campaigns, flyers/advertising and more. This is a great way to hone your skills while getting to know the opportunities we work with (many of which may also be of interest to you!). Email Dr. M at malburmm@jmu.edu if you are interested.

Interpretive Intern at Edith J. Carrier Arboretum

Future teachers, nature lovers, adventurers: this opportunity is for you! The Interpretive Interns will work with the Education Coordinator (Ms. Katie Rankin) to lead guided tours at the Arboretum for school field trips—training provided! In addition, interns will design and complete projects related to some aspect of environmental education in accordance with their interests or career goals. Applicants should have an enthusiasm for working with students in an outdoor setting and for learning about our flora and fauna. Internships may be worth 1 or 2 credits, and interns will need to be available to be at the Arboretum at least two mornings Monday through Thursday from 9-11 a.m.

Please see the Interpretive Intern application here (<https://www.jmu.edu/arboretum/support/volunteer.shtml>), and scroll down to “Interpretive Internship Application”) and send Ms. Katie Rankin (rankinkt@jmu.edu) an email describing your interest to apply.

Writing Internship with the Madison Art Collection (MAC)

Calling all writers who love the arts, cultures, and creativity: discover the Madison Art Collection! Interns with the Madison Art Collection—the only art museum in all of the Shenandoah Valley—will have the opportunity to use their writing, research, editing, and critical thinking skills to contribute to the mission of the museum.

Working closely with the Director of the Madison Art Collection, Virginia Soenksen (soenksvm@jmu.edu), students will determine a project or set of projects to complete, often in collaboration with other interns and staff. Available to be taken for 1- or 2-credit hours through English 294, there are myriad possibilities for this internship. Interested in researching, documenting, and digitizing art objects? How about providing analysis, writing, and editing expertise for the museum’s internal documentation and for public communications? Would you like to help expand audience access to and engagement with our art collection through creative exhibit interpretation? Invaluable professional experiences await successful applicants. Please email Ms. Soenksen (soenksvm@jmu.edu) to express interest in the position, and check out this link for more information and to apply today: [Madison Art Collection & Lisanby Museum Internships - JMU](#). If you are accepted, email Dr. Pennington (penninhl@jmu.edu) to enroll in English 294.

Internships external to JMU ~ unpaid, for credit

Publishing Internship at Hidden River Arts

The internship at Hidden River Arts provides a variety of opportunities to students interested in working in the field of publishing. We host several literary competitions each year, and our interns are often involved in the reading and evaluation of the submissions for those various awards. It is also possible to be involved in our publishing pipeline activities, which include editing, copyediting, proofreading of the manuscripts we are preparing for publication. Some students are also interested in being involved with our design team(s), where the interior and the cover design of the books is completed. Other opportunities exist in the publishing PR and book launch areas. Our interns can be involved in the book launch, readings, reviews and other author profiling activities undertaken as we prepare to launch each book. Finally, there are several opportunities for interns to work with us on our two blogs, where they might choose to conduct an interview with an author, an agent, a publisher, etc. OR they might choose to be a guest blogger and write a piece for publication. Finally, there are opportunities for our interns to help us in building our network of authors and small independent publishers, booksellers and other individuals working in the publishing arena.

Each of our internships is designed in collaboration with the individual intern and our director, Debra Leigh Scott. There are no two internships alike, because we build them to address the skill sets our interns are most interested in developing. There is a great amount of flexibility and a personal mentoring relationship with our director for all interns.

Interested? >>> Please email Ms. Scott at hiddenriverarts@gmail.com with “Publishing Internship” and the semester you’d like to intern in the Subject line to apply for this position. Please describe what you like to read, the types of writing you do, what you might like to learn or practice in this internship, and any experiences you may have with publishing (though no experience of the industry is required).

Research Internship at Hidden River Arts

The internship at Hidden River Arts provides a variety of opportunities to students interested in developing skills in research. Hidden River Arts maintains two blogs, one with a focus on publishing, writing (craft and commerce), books/reviews/interviews, and the other on the arts world in a more inter-disciplinary way (including visual arts, music, performing arts). There are many projects that require research in preparation of writing the articles, reviews or interviews.

There are also opportunities to research particular authors, books, literary periods for the purpose of writing profiles, reviews, and historical pieces. The same is true in areas of music, visual arts, performing arts, etc.

Hidden River is also co-producing a documentary series on the corporate take-over of American academia. We work with interns who want to be involved in the documentary process, help with research on various academic topics, research and identify those experts who would best provide information on the areas of presentation. There is also opportunity to research the documentary film community, the film festivals, and the actual machinery of the film-making process.

Each of our internships is designed in collaboration with the individual intern and our director, Debra Leigh Scott. There are no two internships alike, because we build them to address the skill sets our interns are most interested in developing. There is a great amount of flexibility and a personal mentoring relationship with our director for all interns.

Interested? >>> Please email Ms. Scott at hiddenriverarts@gmail.com with “Research Internship” and the semester you’d like to intern in the Subject line to apply for this position. Please describe what you like to read, the types of writing you do, what you might like to learn or practice in this internship, and any experiences you may have with publishing (though no experience of the industry is required).

-
- For more information on [Internships in English](https://www.jmu.edu/english/undergraduate/internships.shtml), visit our website: <https://www.jmu.edu/english/undergraduate/internships.shtml>

- For quick access to the academic requirements and processes of Eng 294: Internships in English, click here:
https://www.jmu.edu/english/undergraduate/overview_for_eng_294_updated_2022.pdf
- Still have questions that are not answered by these resources? Please email Dr. Pennington (penninhl@jmu.edu).