The Internship Program

The UCLA TFT Theater Internship Program is open to enrolled students from the Department of Theater.

This course provides students with an opportunity to gain field experience in theater, film, television and entertainment organizations. Each student’s internship is a variable-time assignment in the profession. Examples of appropriate organizations are The Actors’ Gang, Center Theater Group, Comedy Central, Creative Artists Agency, DreamWorks, Geffen Playhouse, L.A. Theatre Works, MTV, Nickelodeon, and Sony Pictures Entertainment.

Students must select an organization and make direct contact with the internship coordinator at the organization to secure an internship. Please note that the Theater Department staff and internship coordinator do not provide guidance in selecting an internship.

Students receive internship credit by enrolling in Theater 498. Theater 498 is offered Fall, Winter and Spring quarters as well as in the Summer Session. Enrollment must be completed by the end of the second week of the quarter in which internship activity occurs. Please see “How to Enroll in Theater 195/498” for paperwork deadlines as well as for information on enrolling in the proper quarter.

For any questions, please email Shannon Maguire, the internship coordinator, at smaguire@tft.ucla.edu.
How to Enroll in Theater 498

Theater students have access to the Theater online internship database at http://intranet.tft.ucla.edu/students/theater/. Click on “Internships” to receive access to the syllabus and all required documents.

Determining the number of units

Credit is assigned based on the number of hours worked each week during the ten-week internship or the total number of hours worked. Internships may be taken and/or repeated for a maximum total of twelve (12) units:

- 12 hours per week (120 hours total): 4 units
- 18 hours per week (180 hours total): 6 units
- 24 hours per week (240 hours total): 8 units
- 30 hours per week (300 hours total): 12 units

How to Enroll

Turn in the following items to the internship coordinator (Shannon Maguire) no later than the Friday of the first week of classes:

- Proposal Form (available on intranet)
- Essay
- Acceptance letter on company letterhead
- Signed waiver form (available on intranet)
- Worker’s compensation Agreement (available on intranet)

Please email these items to smaguire@tft.ucla.edu or drop them off at 303 East Melnitz Hall.

The internship coordinator will get the proper signatures. Once all paperwork has been turned in, the Department will provide you with a PTE so that you can enroll in the course.
Paperwork required

In order to enroll in Theater 498, these five items must be submitted to the internship coordinator by the end of the first week of classes:

1. **Internship Proposal Form**

2. **A two-page typed essay** detailing what the student hopes to gain from the internship experience.
   Answer the following questions in the essay:
   - What do you hope to learn from this internship? What do you want to learn about the company or this line of work? In what ways would you like to grow personally and professionally from this experience?
   - What meaningful work will you be performing at your internship? What are your goals and expectations?
   - Give a short site description. What does this company do?

3. **An acceptance letter** (on company letterhead) from the sponsoring organization that states the following:
   - Length of the internship. Internship dates must coincide with Fall, Winter, Spring or Summer quarters. Enroll in the quarter in which the internship ends.
   - Description of internship activities.
   - The specific area or department within the organization where the student will work.
   - The weekly or total hours.
   - The name of the site supervisor.

4. **Signed Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement**

5. **Signed Worker’s Compensation Agreement**
Theater 498 duties

During the Internship

Once the internship has begun, students must submit a one to two paragraph typed weekly journal summarizing the internship activities. The journals should be submitted beginning the first week of the internship, regardless of when the quarter begins.

These journals should be emailed to your internship advisor. This is subject to change. Please contact the internship coordinator, Shannon Maguire, at smaguire@tft.ucla.edu for your advisor’s contact information at the start of your internship.

Journal entries should be submitted by Wednesday of each week for the previous week’s activity. You will receive a confirmation email after you submit your first journal.

At the Conclusion of the Internship

When the internship is completed, the student must submit documentation on the culmination of his/her work. This documentation may utilize several different formats-written reports, design sketches, project brochures, videos, etc. The culminating project must summarize the complete internship experience and what the student learned from it. There must be at least three to five pages of summary.

This essay must be turned in by 5:00pm on the Thursday of 10th week.

The deadline for Summer Sessions is the Thursday of 6th week.

Grading Structure

60%  Weekly Journals
40%  Final Essay