World Affairs Council of Atlanta Internship Overview

The World Affairs Council of Atlanta, a non-profit, non-partisan organization affiliated with the Washington, D.C.-based World Affairs Councils of America and Georgia State University, accepts undergraduate and graduate students as research or program interns each academic semester. As part of the World Affairs Council of Atlanta team, interns are instrumental in the Council’s ability to deliver relevant and impactful programs and research that inform and challenge new thinking about global issues. Research interns work on a signature research project, the Robinson Country Intelligence Index (RCII, http://rcii.gsu.edu/), while Programming and Membership Interns work closely with the programming team to assist with a wide range of tasks related to the planning and implementation of Council programs.

Program Interns have the opportunity to come face-to-face with global business leaders, diplomats, experts and foreign dignitaries who we regularly convene to discuss pressing international issues. Intern tasks include audience development and program promotion through the Council’s social media networks, local media, and weekly e-mails; researching and gathering speaker and topic information; and assisting with event management responsibilities. Interns also work with the membership team to assist with member retention and engagement; manage the membership database; conduct in-person interviews with VIP members to be featured on website; process weekly donor acknowledgement mailings; and design marketing and branding strategies to encourage engagement.

The RCII, published annually through a partnership between the World Affairs Council of Atlanta and Georgia State University’s Robinson College of Business, offers a unique and comprehensive way of measuring country risk across 199 economies. By incorporating a holistic, ecological conceptualization and variable taxonomy, extensive coverage across its Governance, Economics, Operations, and Society (GEOS) dimensions, and interwoven and dynamic functionalities, the RCII distinguishes itself from other risk indexes currently in use. It serves as a tool for teaching, basis for research, and starting point through which businesses, non-governmental organizations, and governments can analyze and mitigate country risk. RCII Interns perform a wide variety of tasks, such as helping create curriculum tied to the tool, gathering and verifying country-level data, and investigating potential new data sources.

The GEOS Fellowship is a $1000 stipend per semester for eligible Georgia State University Political Science and Robinson College of Business (RCB) students. The fellowship is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Undergraduate students must be in junior standing by the start of the fellowship. All applicants must have a major GPA of 3.5 or above, and must be able to work a minimum of 17 hours per week (20 preferred). A total of four fellows will be selected each semester. Interested applicants must complete the GEOS Fellowship Application along with general application materials.

In general, prospective interns should be professional and highly motivated with excellent computer and writing skills, a keen interest in international affairs, and the ability to work as a team player on multiple projects. Expectations include a commitment of a minimum of 16 hours per week (20 preferred). Outside the GEOS Fellowship possibility for eligible GSU Political Science and RCB students, the internship is unpaid, but those accepted may be eligible for course credit as determined by their academic department. If interested, please send a resume, cover letter, unofficial transcript, and two letters of recommendation electronically to wacintern@gsu.edu. Applications can be made at any time, but review of applications for each semester begins as follows: Summer—March 15; Fall—July 15; Spring—October 15.