Independent Study in Business and Management
BMGT 398A | Spring 2020

THREE CREDITS

Course Coordinator: Erin Fields Saddler
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Course Description
The Individual Study in Business and Management-BMGT398A is an opportunity for Smith School of Business undergraduate students to gain business experience while receiving academic credit. This three-credit elective class is offered through the Office of Career Services. This internship seminar is designed to allow students to make connections between their internship experiences, academic coursework, and career goals. All class activities and assignments are designed to track internship progress and allow opportunities to reflect on professional growth.

Learning Objectives
Specific learning objectives for students in BMGT 398a include:
- Understanding the relationship of internship experience to major and/or intended career path
- Exploring career options
- Supporting and/or clarifying career goals based on internship experience
- Identifying and developing professional work skills
- Applying business concepts and practices from BMGT coursework and current business research to the workplace environment

Prerequisites
Prior approval of the Office of Career Services is required. To be approved for the independent study, student must:
- Be a Smith School undergraduate student and in good academic standing;
- Submit a transcript and resume to the instructor;
- Complete an internship information form; and
- Provide offer letter or verification of internship from supervisor.

Course Text/Readings: Refer to the reflection paper assignment description for required readings.

Course Communication
This course does not meet in person. The instructor will communicate with students via e-mail or Canvas regarding course activities and assignments. Students are responsible for ensuring they receive all e-mail and Canvas communications. The course coordinator is your first point of contact. Please use the contact information provided above; do NOT use the Canvas messaging system.

Schedule, Attire, and Reporting Responsibilities
Students should discuss attire, reporting responsibilities, and hours to be worked for the internship with their supervisor. Each of these areas should be understood by the student and agreed upon before the internship starts. Intern and supervisor expectations should be agreed to and listed in the learning contract. Time logs will be kept by the intern, approved by the employer, and submitted to the instructor at the mid-term and the end of the semester.
Policy of Academic Honesty and Integrity
In all class work and assignments, it is expected that students hold the highest personal and professional
standards that reflect the objectives of the University of Maryland. The University’s Code of Academic
Integrity is designed to ensure that the principles of academic honesty and integrity are upheld. The Smith
School does not tolerate academic dishonesty, and all students are expected to adhere to this Code. All acts of
academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of this code. It is expected that
students abide by the Honor Pledge: “I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized
assistance on this examination.” It is in good practice and strongly encouraged for all students to include this
written code with a signature on all assignments. Please visit the following website for more information on
the University’s Code of Academic Integrity: http://shc.umd.edu/SHC/StudentAcademicDishonesty.aspx

Students with Special Needs or Disabilities
Any student needing special accommodations for physical or learning disabilities should speak directly with
the course coordinator so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Every effort will be made to provide
equitable learning conditions for all students.

Course Assignments
Assignments for this course are intended to help students track work and progress and reflect on learning
and professional growth in the internship. The following table outlines required assignments, deadlines, and
point values. Assignments can be submitted on Canvas or in hard copy (if a signature is required).
Submissions will not be accepted via email (except when submitted by a supervisor). Full assignment
descriptions and instructions will be available on Canvas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEADLINE</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
<th>SUBMISSION</th>
<th>POINT VALUE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>Learning Contract</td>
<td>Canvas or Hard Copy to 2520 VMH</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Work Log #1</td>
<td>Canvas or Hard Copy to 2520 VMH</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Mid-Semester Supervisor Evaluation</td>
<td>Submitted by Supervisor to Erin</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Work Log #2</td>
<td>Canvas or Hard Copy to 2520 VMH</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Final Supervisor Evaluation</td>
<td>Submitted by Supervisor to Erin</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20- May 1</td>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
<td>Presented to OCS Staff</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>30</td>
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Summary of Grading
Grading is on a traditional A-F scale and is based on points earned. All grades will be tracked through
Canvas. Points assigned to each assignment are in accordance with the estimated amount of effort needed
for successful completion. As a general rule, no ‘extra-credit’ work will be offered, assigned, or accepted in
consideration of improving the final grade or as a substitute for any of the course assignments. There will be
no "curve" in determining final grades and rounding will not be used. Final grades will be based on a
percentage of possible points earned. Specifically, the breakdown for final grading is:

- 97 – 100% = A+
- 94 – 96.99% = A
- 90 – 93.99% = A-
- 87 – 89.99% = B+
- 84 – 86.99% = B
- 80 – 83.99% = B-
- 77 – 79.99% = C+
- 74 – 76.99% = C
- 70 – 73.99% = C-
- 67 – 69.99% = D+
- 64 – 66.99% = D
- 60 – 63.99% = D-
- 59.99% and below = F