



A bottom-up approach for the design and pilot
of a joint Master Course in Cross-Media Journalism



Journalistic internship

*The students' first contact
to the work life*

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Internship in curriculum

- Learning objective: workplace learning in an authentic journalistic environment
- 4 months' supervised work in a newspaper, magazine, radio, press/photo/communication agency, 5 ECTS
- Learning output: a reflective essay and a theme interview with an experienced journalist
- Job seeking and supervision supported by e-learning tools

Employers

- Centralized internship system for students with less than 3 months of previous experience, 60–80 employers involved yearly
- Internship salary according to the '1+3 model': first month without salary, three successive months [1734 €/month](#)
- University of Tampere pays an additional financial support to the newsroom for the trainee's supervision (1365 € for a 4-month internship period)
- CMT organizes a cost-free 1-day education for supervisors

Typical learning experiences

- Where interns experience being good at: grammar issues, social media management, formulating feedback, topics related to the youth and younger generations
- Insufficient or lacking competences: general knowledge, knowledge about politics/political processes, time management, courage/attitude (e.g. in handling politicians)
- Surprising: no distinction between trainees and summer substitutes, interns are encouraged to present their own ideas, workplace learning more demanding than expected
- The volume and practices of supervision varies to a great deal

Recommended readings

Bigi, Hugo (2012). *Journalism education between market dependence and social responsibility: An examination of trainee journalists*. Bern, Stuttgart and Vienna: Haupt Verlag.

Franklin, Bob & Mensing, Donica (2011). *Journalism education, training and employment*. New York: Routledge.

Gravengaard, Gitte & Rimestad, Lene (2014). "Socialising journalist trainees in the newsroom: On how to capture the intangible parts of the socialising process." *Nordicom Review* 35(Special Issue), 81-97.

Violainen, Maarit (2014). *Toward connectivity: Internships of Finnish universities of applied sciences*. Doctoral dissertation. Jyväskylä: University of Jyväskylä.

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