



How to Create Your Own Field Experience

Though most students completing the Undergraduate Certificate in Global Health choose to participate in a pre-approved field experience, you also have the option to create your own field experience by participating in an internship related to global health.

To be eligible you must:

- **Complete a core course** prior to your field experience.
- **Apply to have your proposed internship approved** as your field experience at least 10 weeks prior to starting the internship. Please note, not all applications are approved.



Step One: Find Potential Opportunities

Internships may be formal openings you apply for or they may be independently arranged with an organization you find interesting. Talk to your professors, friends, and family members to find connections they may have with public health organizations. Global Health Certificate staff maintain a list of potential organizations in Wisconsin and nearby locations which can be found on the certificate's website.

Ideas for Opportunities in Wisconsin and US

- Internship/capstone programs within your major
- Research opportunities: check student job center or search for faculty working on topics that interest you
- Government organizations, e.g. Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), US Centers for Diseases Control
- Madison hospitals and clinics
- Badger Volunteers; www.VolunteerYourTime.org

Ideas for International Opportunities

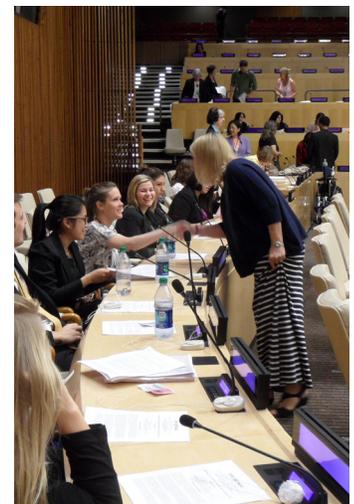
- UW International Internship Program (IIP)
- Worldwide Association of NGOs (WANGO)
- International agencies such as the World Health Organization and UNICEF
- Idealist.org

Step Two: Begin to Develop Your Field Experience

Apply for one or several paid or unpaid internship openings, or connect with organizations to propose an internship. Make sure to have an idea of what you would like to do and how it would benefit the organization before reaching out.

The internship must meet the following requirements:

- **A public health focus** rather than a medical one. Volunteer trips involving clinical work abroad are not approved. See handbook for more information.
- **A global health dimension:** it either needs to take place outside of the US or involve working with a diverse, underserved, or marginalized population within the US.
- **Supervision from a mentor** who understands the position is to be education and not just volunteering.
- **A well-defined project** with clear tasks and goals.
- **A field component** so you are not just sitting at a computer or lab bench but getting out to see how the work is affecting the target population.
- **At least 96 hours** taking place over 4-15 weeks in the summer, spring, or fall terms.
- **A mechanism for getting UW credit** (see Step 3).



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Step Three: Applying for Approval and Getting UW Credit

1. See your Global Health Certificate advisor to discuss your internship or other proposed field experience.
2. Decide how you will receive credit for the field experience:
 - Domestic interns apply for Inter-L&S 260, a one-credit online course for internships.
 - International interns apply through UW's International Internship Program (IIP).
 - Some students may use major-specific internship or directed study courses with their own approval process.
3. Submit the Global Health Certificate's field experience proposal form by the deadlines below and wait patiently to hear if your field experience has been approved!

Fall Internship	Submit by August 1
Spring Internship	Submit by December 1
Summer Internship	Submit by April 1

Examples of Field Experiences Created by Past Students

- Performing research and developing communications materials for the Corporate Council on Africa through UW's Semester in Washington DC
- Developing and analyzing surveys for issues surrounding health equity with Wisconsin's State Department of Health Services
- Working on public health communications for Health Access Connect Uganda through IIP
- Investigating the affect of location on the nutritional qualities of breast milk with the Center for Studies on Sensory Impairments, Aging, and Metabolism (CeSSIAM) in Guatemala
- Shadowing a doctor performing home visits, studying disease prevention, and designing a health education program for children with the International Service Learning in the Dominican Republic and Haiti
- Recording health data and connecting refugees with resources for the State of Wisconsin Refugee Health Program
- Providing safe sex education in low-income communities with Family Health Options - Kenya

