

Career Services Internship Testimonial



Cara Marie Koenigsberg

**Study Abroad from Suffolk University-Boston, MA - Sawyer Business School, Class of 2011
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri – Spring 2010; U.S. Consulate General in Milan – Summer 2010**

My name is Cara Marie Koenigsberg and I was a Study Abroad student at John Cabot University for the 2009-2010 Academic Year through Study Abroad Italy. I had three internships during my time abroad as a John Cabot student. My home university, Suffolk University in Boston MA, with its International reputation and fantastic Study Abroad Program, gave me the opportunity to fulfill one of my most important goals as a college student which was to study abroad in Rome. I am double majoring in Global Business & Management and will be graduating from the Sawyer Business School in May 2011. With my driven mind-set, and goal to make the absolute best of my study abroad experience I went to Career Services within my first few days at John Cabot in September 2009. I knew I wanted an internship experience to be part of my experience abroad, as a fluent speaker of both English and Italian, having spent my life thus far traveling back and forth between the US and Italy to visit family on a yearly basis and growing a true appreciation for both cultures. Looking back now, I went incredibly above and beyond my initial expectations of my study abroad experience and the goals I set for myself when I initially arrived here.

During the Spring 2010 semester I was an IT Intern in the Department of Government Programs at the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Prime Minister's Office) in Rome. I spent my time as an intern researching Government Programs in English-Speaking countries and preparing a comparative Final Presentation that would highlight the main focuses related to Government Programs of each country and/or government. The countries I focused on were: USA, Canada, Singapore, Finland, Australia, Austria, England and Estonia. I also had some translating assignments, translating both from Italian to English and English to Italian, some main assignments included a translation of the Department's website and Italian Government Program from Italian to English, as well as the translation of a reference document for a Government presentation.

During Summer 2010 I was an intern in the General Services Office of the Management Section of the US Consulate General in Milan. To start, this was a complete dream come true, as I had always wanted to

work at a US Consulate General and/or US Embassy in Italy. During my time as an intern I completed a large variety of tasks: I assisted with tasks both in the General Services Office as well as in the Management Section. I learned about the Mission and goals of the US Consulate General as a representation of the US Government in Italy. I participated in Digital Video Conferences between other US Consulate Generals and the US Embassy in Italy, as well as participated in Public Outreach activities and events, examples being an Italian Baseball League game and the 4th of July Event held by the Consulate. I viewed existing and prospective Real Estate properties of the Consulate. I researched brief biographies of future political guests. I also interviewed members of the General Services Office staff and created a brief report relating to observations made and suggestions given to improve the department. I assisted in a few inventory and financial tasks, assisted in destruction of sensitive management information and updated current employee-related presentations and orientation tools for future employees, created statistics reports relating to current employment for the Management Department as well as assisted in the preparation of Employee Evaluations and Award Nominations. I also spent a good portion of my time as an intern assisting the Consular Section, specifically working with the Visa Office, assisting in the process for visa applicants and becoming immersed in a completely different aspect of the Consulate involving National Security and public outreach. I applied for this internship via the US Department of State website which is the required form of applying for US citizens.

My last internship that I participated in and will continue to participate in is as an Event Planner & Group Leader for La Dolce Vita Style. I started this internship in September 2009 when I first began my time abroad. This company is owned and operated by a John Cabot alumnus. The company organizes trips for students both throughout Italy, as well as throughout Europe and beyond. I really enjoy being a part of this great company and organization. During the past year I spent my time on marketing related tasks: informing students of the trips, assisting in researching for trips and participating in Orientation tables at JCU and the Study Abroad Italy office and other outreach events for La Dolce Vita Style throughout Rome and Florence. Over the summer, I was also able to spend some time as a Group Leader for a few of the company's trips.

All three internships were incredibly exciting and great opportunities. For both my internship at the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, as well as the US Consulate General in Milan I participated in the Internship For Credit Program at JCU. This program allowed me to gain even more from my internship experiences as a JCU student. My final report for my internship at the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri had a focus on Operations Management, making observations and analyzing the Department of Government Programs from an operations point-of-view, including the way that tasks were assigned and the process that projects were completed. My final report for my internship at the US Consulate General in Milan focused on Human Resources Management, including analyzing the hiring process for both American and local employees and how employees are organized in projects most efficiently and the communication process between employees in order to allow the organization as a whole to be most effective in fulfilling its duties and goals. My internship with La Dolce Vita Style did and will continue to allow me to express my strong interest in study abroad experiences and my strong belief for the importance of being immersed in other cultures and traveling.

I couldn't be happier with all of my internship experiences at JCU this past year, they will all assist in my search for my future career(s). The support through Career Services, the Internship For Credit Program and JCU as an institution was incredible, as well as all the people I met throughout this entire study abroad experience. The best advice I can give to past, current and future JCU students is—there are absolutely no limits and nothing is impossible.

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