

## Career Services Internship Testimonial



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**JCU Degree Seeking - BA in International Affairs,**  
**Minors in Communications and Economics – May 2011**

### **Internship at the U.S. Embassy of Rome**

Ciao! My name is Christiana Rein and I have just completed my last year as degree-seeking student at John Cabot University. My major is International Affairs with minors in Communications and Economics.

Last summer, I had the opportunity of working as an intern in the Housing section of the General Services Office of the United States Embassy in Rome. I worked there from June to August 2010. The office assigns and inspects all of the apartments located around Rome for the diplomats stationed to work in the United States Missions to Rome. As an intern, I was expected to work just as any of my other colleagues in the office. I kept in contact with the incoming diplomats to inspect and accompany them to their apartments upon arrival.

I learned a lot about how to work in an office environment. My supervisors were very patient when explaining all the procedures of the job. The internship taught me how to work in a professional environment and increase my interpersonal skills with everyone for whom I worked. The internship was interesting because I not only did clerical tasks, like answering phone calls,

updating the calendar for appointments, faxing and making photocopies, but I was very often out of the Embassy visiting different apartments in the most beautiful neighborhoods of Rome.

I signed up for this internship for credit. It can count as a regular college course carrying up to three credits. Aside from the work of the actual internship, I had to carry out a separate project with my internship advisor, Prof. Isabella Clough Marinaro. The project was outlined on a syllabus by my professor, just like a regular class. For the project, I kept a journal explaining my typical everyday tasks, I carried out career-based interviews with my supervisors, and I wrote a paper.

Besides the work at the embassy, I also met a lot of other Italian and American students that worked as summer interns in many of the other offices of the Embassy. The Human Resources office organized courtesy calls inviting all the interns to meet the ambassadors of the United States Mission to Rome and to the Holy See, the Deputy Chief of Mission, and many other diplomats. They talked to us about their experiences working in other countries and about the missions they now carry out in Rome. All the diplomats at the embassy have lived in numerous countries of the world and are very enthusiastic and satisfied about the past postings and their current jobs in Rome.

For me, this internship was truly a satisfying experience. At the end of my internship, I was awarded a 'Certificate of Appreciation' by the General Services Office. I felt very proud because it showed that they were grateful for all the hard work I had done during the summer months. I would suggest this internship to any degree-seeking or visiting students at John Cabot.

The Career Services team was very helpful in assisting me to find this internship.

I would especially like to thank Prof. Clough for helping me carry out the project and giving me helpful advice throughout the internship.