

Career Services Internship Testimonial



Jessica M. Connelly
Study Abroad from University of Rhode Island – AY 2008/2009

Internship at UNICRI - United Nations Crime and Justice Research Institute, Rome

My name is Jessica Connelly and I come from Darien, Connecticut, I attend the University of Rhode Island in Kingston and am a Political Science major.

I attended John Cabot University as a Study Abroad student for the AY 2008/2009. In one of my Political Science courses at JCU I learned about several U.N. organizations headquartered in Rome or with offices in Rome. I was particularly interested in an organization called UNICRI or United Nations Crime and Justice Research Institute. I never thought I would be able to intern in such a prestigious organization but after an interview with Professor Silvia Pulino, Co-ordinator of the Career Services Center at JCU and through my professor's encouragement I was at work at UNICRI from July to September 2009.

Briefly my duties included answering phone calls, responding to questions in person or by email, providing visitors with general information, responding to inquiries about job opportunities and educational programs sponsored by UNICRI and/or the UN, translating documents from English to Italian, and updating and maintaining the ONUITALIA website. I also attended a conference on child trafficking, which was interesting,

As I worked in the summer I assisted my direct supervisor with various tasks concerning the UNICRI Summer School on Fundamental Human Rights as well as the upcoming Short Course on Principles of Ethics to be held at the University of Rome – La Sapienza Campus in Pomezia.

This internship at UNICRI allowed me to further and enhance the knowledge I gained from Professor Schepisi's UN and Diplomacy class at JCU and to see a branch of the UN in action. I gained valuable workplace skills, enriching me personally, culturally, and professionally. I was also able to learn more in depth about international relations and the structure and functions of the United Nations. It was a great way to extend and utilize my time in Rome to the fullest, and I was also able to improve my Italian, which I am personally thrilled about.

This is an experience I would recommend to any one, it will be an asset in future job and internship hunts.

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