



TO: University of Vermont Faculty Members
FROM: Brian Reed, Associate Provost for Teaching and Learning
DATE: April 7, 2017
SUBJECT: New Summer Internship Option – SINT

*March 9, 2018 Revision:
Effective summer 2018, the
conditions of SINT eligibility were
revised to include paid
internships. See bullet three
below for more detail.*

Increasingly, and in order to comply with U.S. Department of Labor regulations, employers offering unpaid internships require the internship to be undertaken for academic credit. In response to this trend, I am writing to provide you with information on a new summer internship option that supplements our existing internship offerings, and will be available to students effective summer 2017. This alternative will be offered under the subject prefix SINT, and has been developed to address the following challenge:

There are instances in which students don't need/want academic credit for an unpaid summer internship, but the receipt of academic credit is a requirement of the organization sponsoring the internship. This is easily managed during the academic year, when most students enroll in 15 credits, and can add up to 3 credits without incurring additional tuition expenses. In the summer, however, registering for an internship course incurs a new tuition expense. As a result, in order to accept an unpaid internship with an academic credit requirement, students must be able to both forfeit summer income *and* absorb the new tuition expense. This puts some valuable internship opportunities beyond the reach of many students. The new SINT option is designed to address this problem.

The characteristics and conditions of the new summer internship option (SINT):

- Tuition rate is reduced to \$100 per credit (plus the required comprehensive fee of \$10 for 1 credit).
- Academic credit and grade awarded and recorded on the student's transcript; the credit does **not** count toward degree eligibility (it will be credit earned in excess of degree requirements).
- Applies only to ~~unpaid/less-than-minimum-wage~~, elective, summer internships; ~~all three~~ **both** conditions must be met to utilize the new option.
- Available to undergraduate and graduate students (graduate students register under SINT 290).
- Offered under the university-wide subject prefix SINT; registration only by Instructor Permission; registration to be coordinated by the Internship Coordinator in the Career Center.
- Offered at the academic department's discretion and under the supervision of a faculty member or faculty-staff team with a faculty member serving as Instructor of Record.

- All existing internship learning, academic, quality expectations and outcomes apply, consistent with the existing [Policy on Academic Internships](#).
- Existing department-based prefix internship courses at standard tuition rates remain in place for students seeking degree-eligible academic credit.
- The SINT internship course can be cross-listed with existing department-based internship courses; students seeking degree-eligible credit enroll via the department prefix (standard tuition rates), students not seeking degree-eligible credit enroll via SINT (\$100 per credit).
- The SINT courselist information is as follows: SINT 090 - Internship, SINT 190 - Internship, SINT 290 - Internship; 1 – 18 credits; Description: On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member/faculty-staff team with faculty member as instructor of record; academic credit not degree eligible; offered at department discretion. May be cross-listed with departmental internship courses.

The attached chart illustrates the similarities and differences among internships, practicum, independent study, and undergraduate research.

If you have questions or seek further information, please contact the Internship Coordinator in the Career Center at career@uvm.edu.

We are pleased to be able to offer this option to our students, which serves to increase their access to important learning and professional experiences, and advance our goals related to career preparation and high-impact practices.

Attachment – Internships Compared to Some Other Categories of Experiential Learning Experiences