Introduction
Preparation for a career in Sustainable Parks, Recreation, and Tourism involves study, planning and experience – and one facet of this involves completing a 3-credit internship, PRT 191. Employers prefer to hire college graduates who have work skills and abilities beyond those certified by receipt of a diploma. In a competitive job market, relevant experience plays an important role in your future success. An internship will help you develop skills, knowledge and work habits needed for future employment.

Internship Advantages
Through an internship, students relate classroom theory and practical applications; develop professional work habits; consider the fit between career requirements and personal goals; improve interpersonal skills; network with professionals; and prepare for a smooth transition into future employment. SPRT internships may be either paid or unpaid; compensation is at the discretion of the host employer.

Employers use internships to establish a pool of potential employees with demonstrated abilities; educate highly motivated students; and develop efficient training programs. Host organizations sometimes hire former student interns directly into staff positions after graduation.

Through internships, the Sustainable Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Program receives student and industry feedback that can influence curriculum emphases; increase rapport with community leaders; and encourages community and professional support for RSENR and UVM programs.

Internship Goals
Internships are more desirable work experiences than normal seasonal employment because cooperating organizations commit to providing a high-quality, varied learning experience. Some internship hosts offer continuing (often seasonal) internship programs; others establish internship opportunities in response to requests initiated by either the student or the program. An SPRT internship must be more than just a job. To receive approval, it must expose a student to a broad range of organizational activities or functions, and provide learning experiences involving multiple aspects of an organization’s operations.

Internship Requirements
1. Meet with your faculty advisor to discuss internship opportunities. Students often set up internship positions with input from an advisor. In total, 135 hours of internship work experience are required.

   2. Complete Form A after you are accepted for an internship by a host organization. Secure the signature of your internship supervisor, and return Form A to your faculty advisor. Form A MUST BE SIGNED by faculty advisors IN ADVANCE of the internship start date.

3. Register for three credits of PRT 191. You may earn credit for PRT 191 ONLY in the semester during which you are doing the internship, or the following semester.

4. Complete the internship. Then, have your organization supervisor complete the Evaluation (Form B). You and your internship supervisor both sign Form B, then you return it to your faculty advisor.

5. Complete all parts of the Portfolio described below by a date agreed upon with your advisor (usually mid-point of the semester following your internship). Deliver all required items to your faculty advisor.
Note: Your health insurance must continue during your internship, through UVM or on a family policy.

Required Internship Portfolio
a. **Substantive Paper:** An internship is more than a job: it’s a valuable experience in your academic preparation for a professional career. Following completion of the internship, students must prepare a final paper that presents a critical analysis of their experiences. While the paper should include a description of activities undertaken during the internship, it must also go beyond description to reflect upon and analyze the overall experience. Your paper should be 10-12 pages, use 1.5 spacing, and should present a detailed analysis and reflection about: what you learned; the internship experiences that helped shape your learning (positive experiences and problems are often equally important!); how your experiences as an intern have enhanced your academic learning; and how your experiences prepare you to achieve post-graduation goals. Analytic papers that provide examples and details from your work, and thoughtful consideration of the implications of your work, will be considered of higher quality than those providing just vague generalizations. Organize your paper with relevant topical subheadings related to your intern experiences. Hand in a paper copy to your advisor.

b. In your portfolio, include a written, one-page reflection about issues of equity, diversity, inclusion, and/or social justice as these topics related to your internship. Explain how these issues are relevant and impactful with respect to: (a) the types of organization, company, or agency in which you worked; (b) the population(s) with whom you worked; (c) the specific areas of recreation, sports or tourism in which you worked; and (d) your future career goals.

c. Include examples of original work you created as part of your internship: site plans, social media content, promotional materials, interpretive guides, a marketing PowerPoint, etc.

d. In your portfolio, provide an updated résumé. Include an entry for your now-completed internship. Also, sign up for a UVM Connect account ([www.uvmconnect.org](http://www.uvmconnect.org)). UVM Connect is a useful online networking tool for UVM students, graduates, faculty, and staff.

e. Write a personal, engaging 300-word blog post discussing your internship experiences, accomplishments, and lessons learned. Include at least one picture of yourself working at the internship site. Identify three tips for future PRT interns. Prepare and edit your text carefully! Your blog will be posted on the PRT 191 blog site, and shared with your organization host. Submit the blog post via email to your advisor when you hand in your paper.

f. Be sure to include with your final portfolio materials the evaluation form (Form B) signed by your supervisor and yourself, if you have not already given that to your advisor.

Your final paper and blog post will be easier to write if you keep a journal (daily or weekly) during your internship. Use it to record your activities, any problems or issues you encountered, examples of unique experiences, memorable learning and growth experiences, etc. Remember to take photos of your internship experiences, and integrate appropriate ones into your final paper and blog. **Your required portfolio should be submitted to your academic advisor by the mid-point of the semester following the internship experience.** You might also like to share a copy of your final paper with your host organization.
Name of Student ____________________________________________

Local UVM Address ____________________________________________

City ___________________________ State _______________ Zip ____________

Local Phone _______________________ Email _______________________

UVM Faculty Advisor ____________________________________________

Advisor’s Email ______________________________________________

Internship Host Business or Organization ____________________________

Department or Division __________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________

City ___________________________ State _______________ Zip ____________

Name of Supervisor and Title ______________________________________

Phone _________________________ Email ____________________________

Beginning Date __________________________________________________

Ending Date (tentative) ____________________________________________

Students: Complete side 2 of this page.

Host: Our organization/business accepts this student as an intern and/or employee for the time and terms specified above. We agree to meet the intern’s expectations to the best of our ability, as outlined above, through a varied work experience. We agree to evaluate the intern’s performance at the completion of the internship.

_______________________________________________________________
Signature of Organization Representative                         Date

Please Return via Mail or Scan and Email to:
Faculty Advisor (named above)
Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, UVM
Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Program, George D. Aiken Center
81 Carrigan Drive, Burlington, VT 05405-0088
STUDENTS: Address the questions below. Type (or carefully print) answers in the space provided.

A. Identify the host organization, how it is organized, what kinds of work it does, and why you want to work there. Describe the internship, what it will include, and the likely scope of learning. Briefly note any special terms of employment.

B. What do you expect to gain from this experience? Once completed, you’ll see how the actual experience compared to what you originally expected.

I understand and agree to ALL PRT 191 Requirements.

Student Name (Print)________________________________________ Date ____________________

Student Signature____________________________________________

Advisor Approval

Signature ______________________________________ Date ________________
Form B: EVALUATION OF STUDENT INTERN PERFORMANCE

Name of Student _____________________  Student ID # _____________________

Internship Job Title _____________________________________________________________________

Name of Supervisor and Title ____________________________________________________________

Host Organization________________________________________________________________________

Phone_______________________  Email_________________________________________

Supervisors: Please complete the evaluation form that is printed on the reverse of this page. We would appreciate your assessment of this student in terms of his or her internship performance. We recommend that this rating be shown to and discussed with the Intern, and that you discuss both strengths and weaknesses with them. The performance rating should be conducted immediately prior to the student’s departure. If you have questions regarding this evaluation, please contact the student’s academic advisor by email or phone.

Students: Review the evaluation with your supervisor – and sign the form at the time of review. Hand in this original, signed document to your advisor along with your final paper submission.

This Evaluation was prepared by:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Supervisor  Date

This Evaluation was reviewed by:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Intern  Date

Supervisor: Please complete the Evaluation table on reverse.

Students: Return this completed, signed form to your advisor with your final paper submission.
EVALUATION

Please rate the intern by checking one column for each of the following criteria (mark “NA” if a category is not appropriate or is not related to the internship experience):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Characteristics</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperates with management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperates with other workers</td>
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<td>Willingness to work</td>
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<td>Dependable</td>
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<td>Honest</td>
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<td>Ethical Behavior</td>
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<td>Shows initiative</td>
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<td>Appearance</td>
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<td>Personality (disposition appropriate for field)</td>
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<td>Motivation</td>
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<td>Accepts supervision</td>
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<td>Accepts constructive evaluation</td>
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<td>Punctuality and attendance</td>
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<td>Professional attitude</td>
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<td>Skills</td>
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<td>Show leadership ability</td>
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<td>Communication--speaking</td>
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<td>Communication--writing</td>
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<td>Shows mechanical ability</td>
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<td>Learns new operations easily</td>
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<td>Adaptable to a variety of jobs</td>
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<td>Overall skills for industry</td>
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<td>Potential for career in this profession</td>
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<td>Overall Performance</td>
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Thank You!