

If landing a job or changing careers are your reasons for getting a degree, then you need an education that makes you employable. One way to boost your employability—while still studying—is to do an internship, co-op or some other form of experiential learning. Employers want to know that you can handle yourself professionally, that you can take on what's asked of you, and most of all—that you can hit the ground running.

Maybe you have some experience in a field, but you're looking to re-enter the workforce in a better-paying position at a bigger company. Internships and co-ops can help you connect with a target organization, allowing you to put your name and face in front of the right people and prove you have what it takes to work there. Perhaps you'd like a preview of what it's like to work in a particular field, before you commit to it or just want to start applying the theories you're learning in class to your real-world job. Whatever your reasons, experiential learning can give you the edge.

What are my options?



I am a non working Graduate student (part-time or full-time; domestic or international) and would like to try out a field that is related to my program while completing my degree.

- Co-op/internship
- Project Network(XN)



I have a full-time job and take Graduate classes on the side. I already have a career but would like to make some relevant professional experiences on the side.

- Experiential Learning at Work
- Project Network(XN)



I am a domestic Undergraduate student (part-time or full-time) and would like to gain some professional experience.

- Co-op/internship



I am an international Undergraduate student and would like to take the full advantage of my time in the U.S.

- Co-op/internship

What is right for you?

Co-op

- For graduate and undergraduate students
- Work must be related to your degree field
- 3-6 months in length
- Between 35-40 hours a week
- Typically paid positions in which students negotiate a salary with their employer

Internship

- For graduate and undergraduate students
- Work must be related to your degree field
- 3-6 months in length
- 10-20 hours a week
- Paid or unpaid positions

Experiential Learning at Work

- For graduate students
- Work with your employer or volunteer organization to custom design a workplace project aligned with your interests and career goals
- Earn graduate credit while you complete a resume-enhancing project
- 3 months planning, plus 3 months project implementation

Project Network (XN)

- For graduate students
- Choose from among a wide-range of corporate-sponsored academic projects with real-world applicability
- 6-week projects, 30-40 hours total

Experiential Learning Program

Fact Sheet for Students

How Do I Get Started?

As a College of Professional Studies student, you can complete a paid or unpaid co-op, internship or project-based experiential learning in several of our bachelor's and master's degree programs. You can be taking graduate or undergraduate classes full- or part-time, online, on campus or in a hybrid format. Many programs offer experiential learning as an elective option.

COP5001 is an optional zero-credit course that will prepare you for finding and securing the right internship or co-op. You can also find co-op and internships opportunities through the **CPS NEXUS database** or through your own search using other resources. **Placements must be approved by your CPS co-op advisor.**

Start dates for co-ops and internships must correspond with the start dates of the **CPS quarters** (September, January, April and July).

Student Quotes

"It's given me the chance to enhance my skills in communication, learn more about leadership and what it takes to work effectively in a high-level performance setting, and allow me to open my eyes to new career paths that I wasn't already familiar with."

–Steven Cuozzo, MS in Leadership

"My overall personality developed from a 'take it easy' attitude to a responsible work attitude. Also 'Communication skills' and 'Problem solving skills' were inculcated which helped in sharpening the business acumen and opened the doors for better employment prospects."

–Yashesh Rawal, MS Regulatory Affairs

"The Co-op experience gives students the ability to utilize their classroom experience and build upon it with practical experience. This process strengthens the student's confidence and fortifies ones work ethic and character."

–Michael Cicchese, MS Project Management

"It is wonderful that Northeastern University and the College of Professional Studies recognize the huge importance of relevant work experience. I respect the college's dedication to equip students with the practical knowledge and experience that are needed in today's competitive professional world."

Co-op student Bozhura Angelova,
MS Corporate and Organizational Communication

Drop by our office to speak with a co-op advisor or get in touch via email:
cpscoop@neu.edu

Walk-in hours:

Thursdays 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
50 Nightingale Hall

Check the Internships and Co-ops section of the CPS website for additional information and eligibility requirements:

Find your advisor here:

www.cps.neu.edu/degree-programs/internships-co-ops/for-students/

Ellen Stoddard
Kelly Cameron

Stephen Rando
Katie Webber

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