Internship Experience

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While looking up the definition of “internship” online, I found out how most places the definition has one word in common, opportunity. Being an intern opens a world of opportunities because you are being exposed to the field or the industry that you eventually want to end up working for. Every internship is unique, and I’m thankful to have had the opportunity to intern at KLRN. In this paper I will discuss my internship experience with KLRN, how classes at Texas A&M International University helped me with it, some previous experiences and what is next in my career.

I first learned about the internship opportunity with KRLN when I took my first video production class and the interns would help us out with our projects. They were always very helpful and reliable. They even gave us their numbers to reach them when they weren’t scheduled to come in. I looked up to them and they used their previous experience to help us and I felt like they were having fun in their internship.

The beginning of the internship was rough, there were a lot of bumps along the way but we learned to overcome them. Kevin and I learned how to work in teams and how we need to work together if we want to bring out quality content to the table. As I said, it was a rough start but as the weeks went by me and Kevin had everything down to a science. We knew what parts of the scripts each one of us were working on, we knew what kind of video shots we needed to get and what kind of interviews. It wasn’t always easy though, because we’re working with people and sometimes those people cancel, or reschedule and we are full time students so there were a couple of time conflicts but we always managed to get what we needed to succeed. In our weekly meetings we discussed not only local events that are relevant to the whole South Texas area and about our progress in the writing, shooting and interviewing but we also talked sometimes about our personal life or about school and work so it was always a fun time when we met up.

There was never a dull moment in this internship. There was always something to be done. First discuss the events that are to be covered, then attend said events film and talk to the people involved, hopefully getting interviews, after about two to three weeks of this then we’d have to edit our b-roll, edit our interviews, film our intros and outros for the Monthly Feed and the Student Reporting lab segments and start all over again. It was truly hard work, but in one semester I feel like I got the experience of a lifetime. We also had the opportunity like KLRN interns before us to assist in the Video Production class and lab, and that was a very rewarding experience. Being able to pass my knowledge on Video Production to students who are unfamiliar with the equipment or that are struggling reminded me of myself when I first started taking those courses.

I believe that some of the classes that I have taken at Texas A&M International University helped me be a better intern. Starting with Media Writing, without this class I probably would’ve struggled a lot while writing. This class taught me the appropriate formats and ways to write in different platforms, and thanks to that class writing our monthly scripts wasn’t such a hassle. Also, Methods of Inquiry was a great class who helped me with tools on how to interview correctly. Doing an interview sounds easy until you’re in the field and you realize it’s not as easy as it seems. Having that knowledge helped me develop better questions to not only get straight to the point but to not confuse my interviewees. Lastly my Video Production courses helped me enormously with this internship because without them I wouldn’t have had any idea on how to use the editing software, the camera, etc. It also helped me create better shots for our segments and just have better quality content.

Before this internship I had the opportunity to intern at another TV station (KLDO) and now that I’ve interned for a smaller chain I know the differences. Both were amazing learning experiences but there’s no way to compare them since they were completely different. I now know what it’s like to run everything from the inside out, when in KLDO I wasn’t really in charge of many things and I didn’t have that many responsibilities. Although one of the fun things I got to experience was doing voice overs and acting for commercials. It was a lot of fun seeing them being aired.

To conclude, overall my internship with KLRK was a very good and very fun learning experience. What is next for me is hopefully graduating with my B.A. in Communications with my minor in Psychology this December, I also hope to keep growing in the industry and learning more and more. I’ll always be thankful for this experience since it helped me grow not only as a student and intern but also as a person. I learned how to be more patient and how to work with people even if things don’t always go the way you’ve planned them.