The Department of History recognizes the importance of internships in helping students develop professional skills and explore potential career paths. Positions can vary depending on availability and students’ interests, but recent sponsors have included the Wisconsin State Historical Museum, the University of Wisconsin Archives, offices of elected officials in the Wisconsin State Legislature and United States Congress, the Milwaukee Brewers, and Community Shares of Wisconsin—just to name a few! History certificate students can also get academic credit in conjunction with an internship by taking HISTORY 301 History at Work: History Internship Seminar.

Like internships, networking can be a valuable tool in opening professional doors and learning more about the professional value of the history certificate. The department often matches students with alumni mentors drawn from our Board of Visitors and other graduates who can help them get started building a professional network, answer questions about a specific field, provide guidance in applying for jobs or preparing for interviews, and providing general career advice.

Students interested in participating in an internship or talking with an alumni mentor should meet with Christina Matta, the department’s undergraduate career advisor, to discuss their interests and possible career goals.

Every L&S major opens a world of possibilities. SuccessWorks (https://successworks.wisc.edu/) at the College of Letters & Science helps students turn the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and other coursework into fulfilling lives after graduation, whether that means jobs, public service, graduate school or other career pursuits.

In addition to providing basic support like resume reviews and interview practice, SuccessWorks offers ways to explore interests and build career skills from their very first semester/term at UW all the way through graduation and beyond.

Students can explore careers in one-on-one advising, try out different career paths, complete internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and connect with supportive alumni and even employers in the fields that inspire them.

• SuccessWorks (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/)
• Set up a career advising appointment (https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/)
• Enroll in a Career Course (https://successworks.wisc.edu/career-courses/) – a great idea for first- and second-year students:
  • INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit)
  • INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Comm B General Education Requirement)
• Learn about internships and internship funding (https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/)
  • INTER-LS 260 Internship in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Activate your Handshake account (https://successworks.wisc.edu/handshake/) to apply for jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers recruiting UW-Madison students
• Learn about the impact SuccessWorks has on students’ lives (https://successworks.wisc.edu/about/mission/)