Information with regard to the course 'Internship'

Aim of the internship

The aim of the internship is to acquaint students with the field of transportation sciences in real-life situations. Master students of Transportation Sciences at Hasselt University will do a 40 days internship (in the period end of September - beginning of December) where they can apply their prior knowledge and obtained skills from the Master programme in Transportation Sciences[1] to concrete, real-life transportation or traffic safety problems. In addition, students are acquainted with new methods and techniques which are used in the field.

Possible internship organisations and topics

Students will work on location and in close cooperation with an organisation that is active in the field of transportation sciences or an organisation where a clear problem definition in the field of transportation or traffic safety can be formulated.

Possible internship organisations are authorities (federal, regional, provincial, local), consultancy firms, (public) transportation companies, research institutes, companies, interest groups, etc.

It is important that students work on a clearly defined topic/project for most of their time. Some examples of internship topics are: analysis of accident data, redevelopment of a school zone, development of a sustainable traffic plan for a business park, etc. The content of the internship depends on the topic, but generally the following tasks can be part of the internship: drawing up a plan of action including problem analysis and definition of the objectives; data collection and data processing; analysis; interpretation; and reporting.

Procedure and timing

For each student, a local supervisor (within the internship organisation) and a Hasselt University supervisor is appointed. Subsequently, the required administration (such as the Hasselt University internship agreement) is taken care of.

During the internship period (between 15/09/25 – 19/12/2025) students will be present at the internship organisation for 40 working days. This can be in a schedule of 4 or 5 days a week.

At the beginning of the internship, students elaborate a concrete internship plan (including a weekly schedule) which is submitted to the internship supervisors for approval. Moreover, students will keep a log offering an overview of their activities. On a regular basis, supervisors will follow up/give guidance to the student. There is at least one compulsory interim (online) evaluation. Finally, students provide the required output (see 'evaluation') in view of the assessment in January.

[1] For more information on the programme, please go to: www.uhasselt.be/Master-of-Transportation-Sciences

Advantages for organisations offering internships

- For 40 days, a trainee is available who will support the elaboration of a concrete topic/project.
- Because of their prior knowledge and the followed study track in the Master of Transportation Sciences, students have a lot of knowledge and a wide range of skills. Moreover, they are motivated to apply this knowledge and these skills in real-life situations.
- Trainees will work relatively autonomously on their internship topic.
- Trainees do not receive payment.

Expectations with regard to internship organisations

- There needs to be a clearly defined topic/project on which the student can work most of his/her time.
- An internship supervisor needs to be appointed who will be responsible for the direct supervision/guidance of the student.
- A physical work environment as well as the required equipment needs to be provided for the intern.
- The local internship supervisor should be able to evaluate the student.

Evaluation

The internship constitutes an important part of the study program (and represents 18 of the 60 credits taken up during the academic year). A final score is determined in January based on the internship report including log, an oral presentation during a poster session (including answering questions) and an assessment form of the process (filled in by the internship supervisor of the organisation).

Contact

If you have additional questions or remarks, you can contact Wim Ectors (wim.ectors@uhasselt.be).