

JM&A Group

Learning & Development Team



Joanna Abel

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

Instructional Designer
Summer 2025

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

The company appreciated my experience in various softwares, like Adobe and Figma. They also liked I had previous proposal writing experience.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

This summer, I learned articulate 360 and Asana software. I honed my understanding of modern learning theory, collaboration, class facilitation, video production, networking, and sales.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I applied over Handshake with a tailored resume, and I used my network to find a reference. My interview was a surprise phone call, so I was grateful I memorized answers to common interview questions as prep in the Fall semester.

What did you do as an intern?

I designed a course from start to finish. I also participated in and piloted multiple courses, providing feedback and assisting in editing. I also created proposal templates. Finally, I presented a project to executive leadership on industry disrupters along with other interns.

What was challenging about your internship?

In my solo project, learning a entirely new software was difficult. During my group project with other interns, it was often difficult to coordinate skill sets and research the company well enough to provide a worthwhile presentation.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I loved the companies focus on culture. Each employee was kind and welcoming, and all levels of leadership had an open door policy to everyone, including interns. I also enjoyed sales classes and being around salesmen. I am now considering sales as a career.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Become familiar with authoring software. Most softwares offer free trials, and its easy to follow tutorials and become acquainted. I would also recommend networking. Don't be afraid to reach out to people!

San Francisco, CA
www.techsolutionsinnovations.com

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

December 2024

Accepted

January 2025

Internship Category

- Technical Writing
- Marketing Communications
- Editing
- User Experience
- Corporate Communications
- UX Writing
- Content Strategy
- ✓ Instruction Writing/Design
- Arts/Nonprofit Communications
- Science Writing
- Proposal Management/Writing
- Speech Writing
- Healthcare Communications
- Journalism

Carnegie
Mellon
University
English

American Chemical Society

Science Communication Team



Caitlin Guilfoyle

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

Science Writer
Summer 2025

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

My educational experience, including biology and science writing coursework, along with strong writing skills, helped give me an advantage in securing this internship.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

During my internship, I strengthened my science writing and editing skills. I also learned how to write using AP style and to use Asana.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I reached out to an MAPW alumni at the company and tailored my resume and cover letter for the job application.

What did you do as an intern?

I helped write and edit press releases and a meeting release based on research published in ACS journals. I also collaborated with the video production team to write and edit a Headline Science script.

What was challenging about your internship?

Interpreting technical journal articles and getting researchers to talk about their work in plain language were the main challenges.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed collaborating with different members of the science communication team, and having the opportunity to work on additional projects including social media posts.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Create a portfolio to help demonstrate your writing experience and style. Also, connecting with other science writers through platforms such as LinkedIn or organizations such as the National Association of Science Writers, which also has a lot of resources.

Washington, D.C.
<https://www.acs.org/>

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

January 2025

Accepted

Early March 2025

Internship Category

- Technical Writing
- Marketing Communications
- Editing
- User Experience
- Corporate Communications
- UX Writing
- Content Strategy
- Instruction Writing/Design
- Arts/Nonprofit Communications
- ✓ Science Writing
- Proposal Management/Writing
- Speech Writing
- Healthcare Communications
- Journalism

Carnegie
Mellon
University
English

Ansys, Part of Synopsys

R&D Documentation



Kelly Le

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

**R&D Documentation Intern
Summer 2025**

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

I believe that my portfolio with solid examples of my writing and document design, along with my ability to understand people and ask questions during the interview helped me a lot.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

I learned a lot about mechanical engineering, simulation physics, and strengthened both my technical and UX writing skills with the many different projects that I got to work on. I also learned a lot about Git and ADO workflows.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I reached out directly to the team manager about the position and made sure both my resume and online portfolio were up-to-date. During my interview, I asked questions then emailed for an update on my application status a couple of weeks after my interview.

What did you do as an intern?

At Ansys, I helped restructure an object reference guide to help AI create better tooltips, drafted an UI guide, drafted a theory guide, used AI to mass-automate retagging a library of XML documents, and more.

What was challenging about your internship?

Learning about the physics behind mechanical engineering. When it came to science, I was more a biology person than a physics person.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

The work itself and the support I got, especially from my supervisor Julie O'Hara and Documentation Specialist Lee Anne Sgro. Everyone was helpful when I had questions, and included me on team meetings and higher impact projects. I also had a lot of fun at company events and events outside working time with everyone too!

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Be ready to learn, learn, learn and stay aware of what software companies are currently prioritizing to remain competitive.

Canonsburg, PA
<https://www.ansys.com/>

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

February 2025

Accepted

March 2025

Internship Category

- ✓ Technical Writing
- Marketing Communications
- Editing
- User Experience
- Corporate Communications
- ✓ UX Writing
- ✓ Content Strategy
- ✓ Instruction Writing/Design
- Arts/Nonprofit Communications
- Science Writing
- Proposal Management/Writing
- Speech Writing
- Healthcare Communications
- Journalism

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**
English

Precision AQ

Market Access



Emily Liu

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

**Medical Writing Intern
Summer 2025**

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

I was a strong candidate because of my background in pharmacology from conducting lab research, as well as my demonstrated ability to write about science for audiences with varying levels of expertise.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

During my internship, I honed my medical writing, markup, and oral presentation skills.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I searched for science writing and medical writing internships, tailored my resume and cover letter, and prepared for interview questions. I also completed a written exercise; for that, I read the instructions carefully, studied examples of similar documents, and budgeted my time.

What did you do as an intern?

I reviewed promotional medical materials for scientific accuracy, created/presented slide decks on hot topics in healthcare, and attended team meetings to discuss client needs.

What was challenging about your internship?

The most challenging aspect was researching unfamiliar topics under tight deadlines, including different disease states and the nuances of managed care pharmacy.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed collaborating with a team of medical communicators, as well as compiling and showcasing scientific evidence for the efficacy of various pharmaceuticals.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

If you're coming from a scientific background, practice communicating science for expert and/or lay audiences. If you're coming from a writing background, practice reading research articles. Review job descriptions for roles you're interested in; they can give you a sense of which documents you'll need to write. Feature stories might require skills in storytelling and interviewing. In contrast, clinical study reports might require skills in clinical research and regulatory compliance.

Remote internship (USA)
<https://www.precisionaq.com/>

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

Early January 2025

Accepted

Early May 2025

Internship Category

- Technical Writing
- Marketing Communications
- Editing
- User Experience
- Corporate Communications
- UX Writing
- Content Strategy
- Instruction Writing/Design
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- ✓ Science Writing
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- Speech Writing
- ✓ Healthcare Communications
- Journalism

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**
English

Carnegie Mellon University

MCS Dean's Office



Abigail Pinnow-Studnicki

MA in Professional Writing (2026)

**Instructional Designer
Summer 2025**

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

My strong communication skills, new ideas for the webpage, and previous experience working with Canvas as an LMS made me a good fit for this project.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

I strengthened my time management skills, organizational skills, creative problem solving skills, and learned more about how Canvas works.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

During my regular work, I noticed several issues with our current system and the way students interacted with the course content. I brought up these issues to my supervisor and mentioned how making my suggested changes would be beneficial to our students and their success in the relevant courses.

What did you do as an intern?

I redesigned the course Canvas page that MCS students use to complete their core courses. To do so effectively, I also conducted user studies and a benchmark analysis.

What was challenging about your internship?

Finding ways to present a lot of information clearly while highlighting the most important things to know without overwhelming students with excess information.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed the problem solving aspects of instructional design and the quick turnaround from ideas to their applications.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Be flexible and receptive to feedback; a criticism of your design is not a criticism of you.

Pittsburgh, PA
www.cmu.edu/mcs

Internship Type

- Paid
- ✓ Unpaid

Applied

December 2024

Accepted

January 2025

Internship Category

- Technical Writing
- Marketing Communications
- Editing
- ✓ User Experience
- Corporate Communications
- UX Writing
- Content Strategy
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- Healthcare Communications
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**Carnegie
Mellon
University**
English

BerryDunn

Business Development Operations



John Rose

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

Business Development Intern
Summer 2025

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

My background in information design, written communication, proposal development processes, and previous business development experiences helped me secure this internship.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

I strengthened my skills in writing, presenting, interviewing, maintaining content, managing deadlines, and documenting firm policies and procedures.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I reviewed previous MAPW profiles, updated my resume to reflect my current work, reached out to employees who worked at the firm, and leveraged an earlier experience working at BerryDunn.

What did you do as an intern?

My largest internship project for the summer involved document accessibility. I developed an executive memo outlining potential firm-wide approaches and responses to upcoming accessibility requirements. Later, I gave a departmental presentation about document accessibility best practices. My other projects included leading a review of current proposal templates, writing business proposals, conducting legal compliance reviews, and maintaining material in the firm's content management platforms.

What was challenging about your internship?

Managing multiple projects and deadlines. Proposal development moves quickly, and I frequently had other responsibilities and tasks to work on in between proposal drafts, focus groups, and meetings.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

BerryDunn has an incredibly supportive business development department. I was assigned a variety of meaningful projects and given multiple opportunities to put the skills I developed in the MAPW program into practice.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Become familiar with writing in many genres and for many audiences. Composing proposals involves working with a blend of plain language, infographics, business jargon, project schedules, and document design. It's important to understand how to fit these types of communication together, write within a project scope, meet governmental regulations, and tailor approaches for specific clients – all within tight deadlines.

Portland, ME

<https://www.berrydunn.com>

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

November 2024

Accepted

Late January 2025

Internship Category

- Technical Writing
- ✓ Marketing Communications
- Editing/User Experience
- ✓ Corporate Communications
- UX Writing
- ✓ Content Strategy
- Instruction Writing/Design
- Arts/Nonprofit Communications
- Science Writing
- ✓ Proposal Management/Writing
- Speech Writing
- Healthcare Communications
- Journalism

Carnegie
Mellon
University
English

The Clemente Museum

Communication Team



Sarah Steinberg

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

Communication Intern
Summer 2025

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

My prior experience working in baseball along with strong communication and research skills, made me a strong candidate.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

During my internship, I honed my transcription skills, collaboration, press releases, marketing communications, and nonprofit writing.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I interviewed the owner of the museum for a class assignment and he asked me to help out over the summer. We talked through details and I interviewed with the rest of the team a few weeks later.

What did you do as an intern?

I followed the docents on their tours and created a master tour compilation to be used in docent training. I also created an archive catalog with the owners acquisition stories, copyedited the website, worked the gift shop during open houses, worked with Major League Baseball to properly document certain artifacts, and collaborated with the rest of the museum team.

What was challenging about your internship?

The most challenging part of the internship was getting my documents and tour to be as accurate as possible and then to get it adopted by the rest of the museum team. I was the first communications intern they had ever had.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed the collaborative environment, learning about the nonprofit world, meeting Major League players and coaches of the visiting teams who came to the museum, and seeing the tangible impact of my documentation had once adopted.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Don't be afraid to go after what you want even if there is no formal internship application. Believe in your ideas and ask questions. If you come to your internship curious and excited, you'll already be an asset.

Pittsburgh, PA
www.clementemuseum.com

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

February 2025

Accepted

Early March 2025

Internship Category

- Technical Writing
- ✓ Marketing Communications
- Editing/User Experience
- Corporate Communications
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- Science Writing
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- Healthcare Communications
- Journalism

Carnegie
Mellon
University
English

Salesforce

Marketing Cloud Content Experience Team



Brandon Teola

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

Technical Writer
Summer 2025

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

My skills in technical documentation and structured authoring with DITA made me a strong candidate for the role. My ability to adapt to different audiences, which was showcased in my writing samples, also served as an advantage for securing the position.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

During my internship, I learned how to interview subject matter experts, use a publishing toolchain to update content, and apply content to different style guides.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I tailored my resume and writing samples to the internship description, researched the company thoroughly, and was proactive in quickly responding to emails regarding the scheduling of multiple interviews.

What did you do as an intern?

I worked on two main projects. The first was an inventory and audit of a high-need documentation bundle of 400+ topics. I also created a learning module about the product my team documents that was published on Salesforce's learning platform called Trailhead. I also worked on several side projects that included updating content and interviewing product managers and support engineers.

What was challenging about your internship?

It was challenging to adjust to the rapid release timeline and ensure the accuracy of my work because information became out-of-date quickly.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed learning from my team, working onsite at the Salesforce Tower in San Francisco, and learning about the impact of my work.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

I suggest that students interested in technical writing become confident in writing concisely about complex material, because it can be very challenging. I also recommend students familiarize themselves with the variety of genres that technical writers work with, such as release notes, help documentation, UI text, and developer documentation.

San Francisco, CA
www.salesforce.com

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

October 2024

Accepted

Late November 2024

Internship Category

- ✓ Technical Writing
 - Marketing Communications
 - Editing
 - User Experience
 - Corporate Communications
 - UX Writing
- ✓ Content Strategy
- ✓ Instruction Writing/Design
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 - Science Writing
 - Proposal Management/Writing
 - Speech Writing
 - Healthcare Communications
 - Journalism

Carnegie
Mellon
University
English

CMU Languages, Cultures and Applied Linguistics

Communications Team



Anna Tran

MA in Professional Writing (2025)

**Communications Intern
Summer 2025**

What skills did you have that gave you an advantage in securing this internship?

My prior UX Design internship and Information Architecture class helped me strengthen my visual communication and website designing skills.

What skills did you strengthen or learn at your internship?

During my internship, I honed my user research, website design, and marketing communications skills.

What are the steps you took to land your internship?

I talked to the head of the LCAL department, Anne Lambright, and learned about the internship through her.

What did you do as an intern?

I did website audits, developed mock-ups for the main and sub-pages pages of the website, rewrote content for the undergraduate pages, and updated the website's general branding and layout.

What was challenging about your internship?

Trying to strike a balance between creating engaging written content for students and department branding.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed the collaborative environment, the LCAL community, and the creative freedom of the role.

What advice do you have for students interested in this field?

Learning to understand people's experiences with your product is key in both visual and written communications work. Create a portfolio with both design and technical writing pieces. Build meaningful relationships and connections whenever you can.

San Francisco, CA
www.techsolutionsinnovations.com

Internship Type

- ✓ Paid
- Unpaid

Applied

February 2025

Accepted

March 2025

Internship Category

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 - Editing
- ✓ User Experience
 - Corporate Communications
- ✓ UX Writing
- ✓ Content Strategy
 - Instruction Writing/Design
 - Arts/Nonprofit Communications
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 - Speech Writing
 - Healthcare Communications
 - Journalism

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**
English