

BRUSSELS: EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT & SOCIETY

INTERNSHIP 2017



As the home of the European Union and NATO and the de facto political capital of Europe, Brussels is a prime location for students seeking meaningful international internships in the political, cultural, and social arenas. BYU students participating in the European Government and Society internship program work at the EU or EU-affiliated think tanks, lobbying groups, and charitable organizations. Most interns spend their work hours researching and writing on current affairs and learning how governmental policy is shaped in the EU. On evenings and weekends, interns explore Brussels, participate in the international ward in Brussels, and, time and funds allowing, take advantage of the city's central location to travel to London, Paris, Amsterdam, and other nearby European cities. Brussels interns consequently emerge with enhanced workplace skills, a heightened appreciation for European culture and current affairs, several credits toward a major or minor, and a résumé line likely to open doors for years to come.

QUALIFICATIONS

For the 2017 calendar year, Brussels internships will be reserved for current BYU students majoring in European Studies or a major housed in the College of Humanities. Ideal applicants will be juniors and seniors with solid academic track records, strong research and writing skills, and demonstrable familiarity with and interest in contemporary European politics and society. While fluency in French or Dutch is highly desirable, most workplaces use English and students can generally get by in Brussels without a foreign language.

INTERNSHIP PROVIDERS

Potential applicants may either find an internship on their own or work with the program coordinators to apply to one of the following offices that has an existing relationship with BYU:

The **European Social Observatory (OSE)** is a research center that publishes and advises governmental agencies on social and economic policy Europe. Applicants must know European society well and excel in research and writing.

The **LDS Public Affairs: EU Office** represents the Church's interests in the EU and advocates for such issues as religious tolerance and freedom of worship. Interns must have strong interpersonal and writing skills. EU citizens particularly desired.

Human Rights Without Frontiers is a nonprofit dedicated to promoting democracy, the rule of law, social justice, religious freedom, and basic human rights. Applicants should be committed to HRWF's agendas and show strong communication skills.

Two **Members of the European Parliament** from the United Kingdom, one from the Conservative Party and one from UKIP, are interested in interns from BYU. Applicants must be strong researchers and understand the dynamics of EU governance.

Bruegel is one of the top economic policy think tanks in the world. Applicants must have strong training and interest in economics, which usually means extensive course work in international relations or economics.

DATES

Due to immigration restrictions, those traveling on a US or other non-EU passport may only stay for 90 days. Winter internships usually run from January to mid-April but can possibly be shifted to mid-February through mid-May to allow students to take a course at local universities. Spring/Summer interns generally go from early May through late July and Fall interns from early September through late November.

HOUSING

Housing is solely the responsibility of each intern. For housing leads, students should consult previous Brussels interns from BYU and online resources for short-term rentals in the area.

COURSES

Fall and Winter interns must take 12 credit hours, and Spring/Summer interns must take 6 credit hours in each term (or 12 total). Most credit hours will come through IAS 399R or the equivalent 399R internship class from the student's major. Students might also earn 3 credit hours of EUROP 336R (which counts toward the European Studies major and minor and the GE Global Awareness requirement) by taking a course on European government at the American U. of Brussels (Spring/Summer) or KU Leuven (Winter or Fall). Those receiving stipends from the College of Humanities must take HCOLL 396R (Internship Prep) during the second block of the semester prior to their departure.

COST

Approximately \$7,000 inclusive (more for graduate and non-LDS students). Cost estimate includes full-time undergraduate tuition, \$2,650, airfare (\$1,000–1,500), and living expenses (roughly \$1,000 per month or \$3,000 for a ninety-day internship).

FUNDING SOURCES

Although most Brussels internships are unpaid, various funding options can make the experience highly affordable. University, departmental, and private scholarships, as well as federal financial aid such as Pell Grants and Stafford Loans, may be applied towards the program's cost. Those majoring in European studies or a College of Humanities program might qualify for an internship stipend of up to \$2,000. Other students should inquire at their department or college offices about funding for internships and experiential education. By planning well in advance, students might also apply for a \$1,500 ORCA award (orca.byu.edu) for internship-related research. See also kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested students should first meet with the program facilitator, Melissa Barreiros (e-mail below), to discuss their fit for this program and which positions they might pursue. The program facilitators and coordinators will assist qualified students with the application, which usually consists of a letter of application and a CV. Internships are only official once the sponsoring office issues a formal offer, and therefore students should not plan travel or housing before that time. Once an offer has been extended, students must complete the online ISP application and pay a \$35 processing fee at <https://kennedy.byu.edu/apply>.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Winter 2017: 1 October 2016

Sp/Su 2017: 1 March 2017

Fall 2017: 15 April 2017

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT

Melissa Barreiros (melissa.barreiros001@gmail.com), a former Brussels intern and the student facilitator for this program. After beginning the application process, potential interns will begin working with either **Nick Mason** (Professor of English and European Studies and the faculty director for this internship) or **Danny Damron** (College of Humanities internship specialist). This is an independent internship, and therefore no BYU faculty or staff member will be on site with students in Brussels.

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

ISP reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost estimates due to conditions beyond its control.