

Sheridan Launches Virtual Internship Program

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Sheridan College has developed a new program that will ensure students can continue to enjoy work-integrated learning opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sheridan's Virtual Internship Program (VIP), developed by the college's Career-Integrated Learning (CIL) department in collaboration with Sheridan's Faculty of Animation, Art and Design (FAAD) and [Entrepreneurship Discovery and Growth Engine \(EDGE\) hub](#), provides solutions for Sheridan degree students who need or prefer an alternative to a traditional internship during the pandemic. The VIP allows participants to earn their work-term credit remotely, offers the flexibility of three different streams to choose from, features collaborative opportunities and — most importantly — positions them to have a meaningful and valuable learning experience.

"The speed at which our staff was able to pivot to ensure internships can continue during these trying times demonstrates the very adaptability and resiliency that we strive to instill in our students," says Dr. Janet Morrison, Sheridan's President and Vice-Chancellor. "This initiative also fosters engagement with industry and communities to create new approaches for hands-on learning, which is one of the priority objectives of our five-year Strategic Plan."

All three streams of the responsive program allow students to apply their Sheridan education and training to help industry and community organizations address complex issues related to COVID-19, consistent with the college's [#SheridanHelps initiative](#) that provides rapid and substantial assistance for learners and the community.

Options within the VIP include 1) Work; 2) Innovation Accelerator; or 3) COVID-19 Project. Each of these new offerings also includes a 10-week Career Ready Competency program, other learning modules, and a guest speaker series with relevant webinars through the program.

"COVID-19 has created unprecedented challenges and complications for everyone, including student participation in co-op, internships and other forms of work-integrated learning," says Matthew Rempel, Director, Career-Integrated Learning. "This adaptive and innovative program alleviates those concerns for our students while also helping our industry and community partners address issues caused by the pandemic."

The VIP's unique Innovation Accelerator option engages students in a 10-week facilitated process that enables interdisciplinary group projects. Students will apply human-centered design methodology to develop solutions for pandemic-related issues faced by local businesses, governments, community foundations, non-profits and charities.

For more information, contact:

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Sheridan's Career-Integrated Learning team, in partnership with all academic faculties, is committed to many forms of work-integrated learning, including apprenticeship, field placement/experience, mandatory professional practice, internship and co-operative education. The college has provided co-op experiences to its students for more than 30 years, and more than 7,500 students annually participate in WIL.