Reflection prompts: Writing internship

Prompts for reflection should be designed to aid students to consider how the applied learning project, task, or research activity that they complete relates to current learning and prepares them for future endeavors.

Below are some questions that can be used to help students write substantive reflections about the knowledge and skills gained from their writing internships. These questions can be customized to be used to reflect on internship experiences in other disciplines.

1. Prior learning

- a. What methods, theories, ideas, and skills that you learned or used in your classes were useful to you in completing the work required of you during your internship experience?
- b. Which of your courses best prepared you to write within the organizational context that you encountered during your internship? Explain specifically how each course that you mention provided you with useful preparation.
- c. Analyze and describe the types of writing done at your internship site. Did your academic training prepare you for these types of writing? Explain your answer, using specific details and examples.

2. Present experience

- a. Using an actual experience, describe how you analyzed and solved a problem that occurred during the internship.
- b. How did your internship experience expand your understanding of the professional aspects of working as a writer/editor in an organizational context?
- c. What assumptions or conceptions (about yourself, others, or how things work) were confirmed or contradicted by the experience?
- d. Based on your experience, what are the most important skills needed for an individual to be a success working as a writer/editor in an organizational context?
- e. What do you wish had been included in the internship experience? Be specific.

3. Your future

- a. What could be the implications of what you learned from this experience for your future work /career?
- b. What skills, knowledge, or experience did you wish you had prior to participating in your internship experience that would have aided you to get more from the experience and/or achieve a better outcome?
- c. Are you still considering a career in this field? Why or why not?