

10 tips for doing an internship during your DPhil



Taking an internship during your DPhil is a fantastic way to gain new skills, explore future career opportunities, and build networks!

Students from the Statistics Department have completed a range of internships including with pharmaceutical companies (UCB, Novartis), tech companies (Uber, DeepMind), Google Summer of Code, Microsoft Research and other academic research groups.



Internships are typically for three or four months, often during the summer, but can be any time of year.



If a company is involved in your DPhil project you should consider asking to do an internship.

Check whether your funding body has any internship initiatives, which may include a three-month extension of your stipend, such as the research councils' Policy Internship scheme.

The Internship Office at the Careers Service organises the Summer Internship Programme as well as short-term Micro-Internships, many of which are only advertised to Oxford students.

Keep an eye out for internship opportunities and be aware that the application process for some summer internships may begin early in Michaelmas term.



You may or may not need to suspend student status for a term during your internship, which requires filling out form GSO.17 and GSO.17a on your return, with signatures from your college, supervisor and head of graduate studies. Suspending student status will extend your DPhil by one term and may affect your visa status — see the University website for more information and advice on suspending student status.

The department is in general very supportive of DPhil students doing internships, but you should also check with your supervisor and consider publication and progression timelines.



Before you leave, make sure you organise all your work (code and notes), so you can get back to it as painlessly as possible. GitHub is your friend!

