

My Experience as a Publishing Intern

My name is Alyssa Abou Naoum and I'm a third-year student that is specializing in Creative Writing and English Language and Literature at Western University. During the Winter/Spring semester of 2025, I did an internship through the Arts & Humanities Internship Program. I was given the opportunity to be the publishing intern for the Department of English and Writing Studies and their literary journal, *Occasus*. My internship experience aligns quite well with my plans after receiving my undergraduate degree, seeing that I would like to pursue a career in the literary publishing industry after receiving a masters in Publishing.

As I reflect on my internship experience, I am filled with gratitude for being chosen for this position and the opportunity to gain insight on networking within the literary community. My duties in this position consisted of typesetting all of *Occasus*'s archives and past issues onto an updated website for easier access, assisting with social media outreach and content creation, and hosting and organizing all of the literary events held by the Department of English and Writing Studies.

These experiences have equipped me with more confidence in my public speaking skills and creative ideas for event planning within the literary community. I believe the experiences garnered during my internship will help me with my future career prospects. My internship has helped me build an essential foundation of real-world experience that is a requirement of professional publishing houses.

For any Arts & Humanities students that are interested in doing an internship through the Arts & Humanities Internship Program, I highly recommend becoming involved in clubs and associations on campus as soon as possible. Your experience on campus translates quite well in professional settings and can be the reason you are chosen for an internship position. However,

be careful not to take on too many extracurricular activities all at once, seeing that this can be detrimental more than beneficial. Too many associations and extracurriculars can quickly start to affect your academic performance in your classes.

Ultimately, I thoroughly enjoyed my internship, personally and professionally. The experience solidified the career path in publishing I am currently pursuing. Most importantly though, my internship experience gave me the opportunity to connect and network with fellow student-writers. The connections I have made during this internship have been valuable to my university experience and will play a significant role in my professional life after graduation.