CpS 465/475/485 – IT/CS/Cyber Internship

EXP – Fall 2025

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Course Description:

This internship is designed to be a part-time or fulltime work experience totaling 120 or more hours in any of the fields of information technology, which can include help desk support, network administration, desktop support, server support and website maintenance. The internship program is designed to be flexible so that the student's employer and faculty administrator can work together to provide an experience that is both educational and eye opening for the student. EXP 3 credits.

Course Overview:

Internships are designed to give the student practical work experience in their field of study while still a student. This provides an excellent advantage in the post-graduation job market. Most companies want you to have a completed college degree (with good grades) and experience. The internship provides a vehicle for getting some experience before graduation!

Context:

The faculty of the Computer Science department has aligned the computer science program with the goals of the Mathematical Sciences Division, BJU Bible and liberal arts core objectives, and BJU institutional goals. The goal of the Computer Science department is to align all courses in the Computer Science and Information Technology majors to support one or more of the following departmental goals. An asterisk indicates a specific goal fulfilled by this course.

* Design and implement solutions to practical problems \*
* Use appropriate technology as a tool to solve problems in various domains \*
* Create efficient solutions at the appropriate abstraction level
* Demonstrate an ability to work effectively in teams \*
* Demonstrate an ability to communicate technological information effectively both in written and oral forms \*
* Demonstrate an ability to acquire new knowledge in the computing discipline \*
* Demonstrate an understanding of social, professional and ethical considerations related to computing \*
* Demonstrate understanding of fundamental concepts in the student's discipline
* Prepare students for graduate school or to secure employment in a related area \*

Course Goals:

* Design and implement solutions to practical problems.
* Demonstrate an ability to acquire new knowledge in the computing discipline.
* Provide the student a platform for continued learning and development of his or her God-given abilities.
* Instill in the student a desire to use his or her abilities in service to Christ.
* Help students gain valuable work experience in the field of information technology or computer science.
* Challenge students to let their light shine in the workplace in order to achive maximum impact for Christ.

Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

* Test his or her ability and desire to work effectively in the business world.
* Gain insight into what role a computer science person plays in the business world.
* Develop regular accountability for assigned responsibilities.
* Learn to interact properly with co-workers.
* Gain valuable business experience while performing various computer science functions for a company.

EXP Student Learning Outcomes:

* SLO 2.1: The student will be able to connect the EXP to biblical worldview.
* SLO 2.2 The student will be able to connect the EXP to other learning.
* SLO 3.1 The student will be able to grow career competencies through the EXP.
* SLO 3.2 The student will be able to solve problems related to the EXP.

The student will be able to describe and reflect critically over what has been learned, showing how faith integrates with learning and how learning will inform future personal and professional practices.

EXP Requirements:

This course has been approved for EXP (Bruins Engage!) credit and addresses each of the five criteria for experiential learning: engagement, mentorship, challenge, ownership, reflection. To receive EXP and course credit, students must satisfactorily complete all EXP assignments within the required timeframe, including:

* Exit Survey
* Final summative reflection EXP questions with a grade of C- (28 out of 40) or higher
	+ 150-word minimum for each of the four required elements.
	+ Students may revise their summative reflection one time to meet the C- standard.
* Failure to complete any of the above will result in a failing grade for the course.

Course Requirements:

NOTE: This covers course requirements for CpS 465-EXP.

* Complete a pre-test at the beginning of the internship
* Complete a post-test when the internship ends
* Work a minimum of 120 hours (spread out over a minimum of 6 weeks)
* Read 1 assigned book (WHICH YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY READ) from the following list:
	+ Being Digital by Negroponte
	+ The World is Flat (chapters 1-4) by Freidman
	+ The Numerati by Baker
	+ The Mythical Man Month
	+ The Inmates are Running the Asylum
	+ The Art of Deception (particularly good for cybersecurity majors)
* Once you've selected your book, send the instructor an email with subject: <CourseID> Book Selection.
You must read the book completely & submit an outline. Once your instructor has approved your outline you may then submit your book report.
1. Write a CS/IT Job Market Report. The purpose of this assignment is to get you to explore the CS or IT job market. Go to bls.gov and search on various IT related jobs. Write a 750-1000 word report on what you discover. Indicate the type(s) of jobs you are most interested in. Outline your game plan for landing such a job.
2. Write a book report (1200-1500 words) and drop it in the Book Report dropbox.
Write an outline and a book report for the book you selected to read. Your report should demonstrate you have read and absorbed the entire contents of the book. Your report should have an appropriate title page which includes your name, name of the course, date completed, number of words.
Use single spacing, with double space between each paragraph. Include your outline in each report, but NOT IN THE WORD COUNT. Put each outline item in bold before the appropriate paragraphs. Include page references where appropriate. Use the format [#], where # is the page number.
Your wording should be professional and original (except where you are making specific references to the book). Spelling, grammar and logical flow will impact your grade.
3. Write a summary paper about your work experience (750-900 words).
Follow the same format as the book reports. Your title page should include the name and contact information of your employer, total number of hours worked.
Describe how you think your internship experience will help you in the future. Answer the following questions:
* How does creation, fall, redemption explain significant parts of your EXP experience?
* How does your previous coursework explain significant parts of your EXP experience?
* How did your Career Competencies grow as a result of your EXP experience?
* What problems did you solve related to your EXP experience? How did you solve the problems? Categorize the problems into types of problems and create a chart showing the percentages in each category (i.e., user training, hardware, cabling, software, etc.).

Submit your paper to the Summary Paper dropbox.

1. Post discussions about your work experience (250-350 words each) every 2 weeks during the regular fall/spring semester (or every week if you are on a 6-week work plan in the summer).
2. Maintain a log of problems encountered, research performed and solutions produced
This is likely to be the most valuable part of your internship! Much of IT and CS is simply problem solving. Problem solving is a "learn by doing" activity. Learning to recognize patterns and the solutions to those patterns will make you a most valuable employee! I want you to keep a work log of all the problems you encounter during your internship. Each entry should include the following:
* date
* person or group having the problem
* brief description of the problem
* category of the problem (best to keep your number of categories to 12 or so)
* brief description of the resolution
* resource(s) used to resolve (help file, individual, web page, etc)
* See the Sample Problem Log in the course content for a pattern.
* A work evaluation must be submitted by your employer at the end of your internship experience
You can find the evaluation form in the Course Materials module.

Schedule: ([See Canvas for dates/times for assignments](https://bju.instructure.com/courses/))

Grading

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Item** | **Pts.** | **Total** |
| 6 | Discussions |  50 | 300 |
| 1 | Book Report Outline |  50 | 50 |
| 1 | Book Report |  100 | 100 |
| 1 | Job Market Report |  100 | 100 |
| 1 | Problem Log Journal Draft |  50 | 50 |
| 1 | ​Problem Log Journal Final |  100 | 100 |
| ​1 | ​Work Hours Quiz | ​100 | ​100 |
| 1 | Summary Report |  150 | 150 |
| ​1 | ​Supervisor's Evaluation | ​150 | ​150 |
| ​ | **TOTAL** | ​ | **1100** |

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| **Grade** | **Score** |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | < 60 |