

COMPLETING THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT

Here you will find information for (1) the main expectations once you complete your internship; and (2) how to complete specific sections of the GDEV Learning Contract.

The Learning Contract

The Global Development uses an online learning contract for students in GDEV 4940. Components of the learning contract include:

The first section of the learning contract includes information about the student, job, and employer. The next section includes information about learning objectives, learning activities and course grade evaluation, which will be outlined below. The final section includes information about the faculty supervisor.

Learning Objectives

“What do you hope to gain from your internship (i.e., specific skills, knowledge, experiences)?”

In this section, list what you hope to carry away from your internship, the skills you wish to acquire, and the knowledge base you want to build during your experience. Consult with your on-site supervisor and GDEV Faculty Internship Supervisor to establish these goals.

In addition, the following learning objectives will be common for all Global Development Internships, that is, the student will...

1. Demonstrate linkages between internship experiences and concepts in global development studies.
2. Show connections between internship experiences and vocational aspirations.
3. Express how internship experiences inform their understanding of global development issues.

Learning Activities

“What will you actually do at the internship that will help meet the Learning Objectives described above? This could include readings, research, writing, interviewing, shadowing other professionals, participating in organizational events and meetings, etc.”

In this section, list the specific tasks you will be assigned as an intern. These tasks should clearly support your learning objectives. Consult with your on-site supervisor to establish the required duties. One of these activities must be periodic meeting with your on-site supervisor.

Course Grade Evaluation

“What will you provide to your faculty supervisor for grade evaluation (i.e., journal, paper, portfolio, proposal, presentation, etc.)”

This final section of the contract includes prescribed activities required of you for the “on-campus” graded portion of your internship. This section is already completed for you. The GDEV Faculty Internship Supervisor will describe these activities in detail when reviewing the contract with you.

As part of your internship, you will meet a number of times with the GDEV Faculty Internship Supervisor throughout your internship to discuss the internship, questions and/or concerns. These meetings will help interns have a rich and rewarding learning experience.

Your assignments will include three written papers. You'll also be required to provide an evaluation of your site, and your site supervisor will evaluate your performance.

Activities – Three Written Reports

Connection: Theoretical knowledge and experiential learning

Development in the news: locate, summarize and reflect on three recent news articles related to development as it is being applied in society. The news articles should be related to your internship's area of development. Discuss how the articles fit/do not fit with theory from coursework as well as what you experience on the ground in your internship. *The details of this report should be discussed with the GDEV Faculty Internship Supervisor.*

Reflection: Gain insight into global development profession

Write a reflection on your experience in your internship. The report should address these questions:

- Where did you intern?
 - Description of organization (name, development focus, services provided, etc)
 - Describe and evaluate the following:
 - **mission** (primarily Western driven or indigenous driven, mission statement),
 - **organizational structure and leadership** (who is on the board, how do they get on the board, how much veto power does the board have over the CEO or what the NGO does, how is the organization led)
 - **financing** (what percentage of the money raised goes to the people the NGO helps, what percentage of the money goes toward administrative salaries and where are the administrative offices)
 - **oversight** (who has jurisdiction over the NGO)
 - **results** (what are the stated accomplishments of the NGO)
- What did you do for your internship?
 - Description of job duties and job role
 - Description of how job fit within the organization
 - Description of any special projects completed as part of the internship
- What did you learn about your objectives from your internship?
 - Reflect on your learning objectives
- What did you like/not like about your internship and why?
 - Knowledge and skills gained?
- What did you learn about the global development professions?
- How did your internship contribute to understanding your vocation/calling?

Note: for this assignment, it is helpful to keep a journal during your internship so that you can capture your experience in real time and reflect on the experience as a whole once the internship is complete.

Career Development: Understand the relationship of your own goals, desires, and skills to career paths in development and related fields

Create a professional development plan. A professional development plan outlines where you would like to go (goals), assesses where you are at, what you need to move toward your goals, and outlines action to obtain what you need. To assess where you are at, collect the on-site internship supervisor evaluation and complete your own self-assessment of your performance in the internship. Using this feedback and self-assessment, write a paper that discusses your plans for your next steps in your professional development. The paper should address these questions:

- What are your current goals for your career path?
- How do these goals fit in your overall sense of vocation?
- Given the feedback from your internship and your own self-assessment, what skills/knowledge/experience do you have and what skills/knowledge/experience do you need to develop to move in the direction of your goals?
 - Attached both the internship supervisor evaluation and your self-assessment
- What actions can you take to begin to develop the needed skills.