

# MERTIE W. BUCKMAN INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

international system dealing with this issue. I not only substantially improved my oral French skills through total immersion, but I was also introduced to the West African cultures, especially that of Senegal, through my Senegalese colleagues and cultural activities. I took advantage of weekends to travel to other European countries including Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, and Germany, and observed the practice of political systems and people's way of life. As a food lover, I not only tried out all the specialties of the different cities I visited, but also discovered the West and North African cuisines that are available in the Goutte d'Or neighborhood.

## Anjali Tadavarthy '24

**Hometown:** St. Paul, MN  
**Major:** International Studies, Political Science  
**City/Country:** Vienna, Austria  
**Employer:**



Initiated in 1994 through a generous gift of the Buckman family, the Mertie W. Buckman International Internship Program provides the opportunity for rising junior or senior International Studies majors to broaden global understanding through living and working abroad. Selected students complete an eight-week summer internship in the country of their choice. Recent destinations have included Austria, Chile, England, France, Guatemala, Ireland, and Spain. Mertie Buckman interns will have the opportunity to work with employers ranging from businesses to local human rights organizations.

Qualified applicants are rising junior or senior International Studies majors with a minimum overall/major GPA of 3.3 and relevant language skills. Selected students earn one credit of I.S. 470 and F11.

The program is coordinated by the International Studies Department Chair, the Career Services Director, and International Studies faculty members. Please contact these departments with questions.

## Jennifer Benton '24

**Hometown:** S L i MO

**Major:** l e a i a S die a d F e ch

**City/Country:** Pa i Fa ce

**Employer:** A cia i C . e A . e Pai

▀ Le E fa . de Liba

is summer I worked for the Association Culture Arts et Paix pour les Enfants du Liban. My main tasks during my internship included translating the ACAPEL website and yearly bulletin, writing articles, and attending events

such as their general assembly and the proceedings of the National Asylum Court. Outside of the office, ACAPEL also provided me the opportunity to travel within France and visit sites such as Normandy, Bayeux, and Chartes for cultural excursions. During my internship, I had the opportunity to apply skills that I had learned in my courses, such as Translation 202. Being able to successfully translate documents and convey nuance and cultural norms was extremely rewarding and only possible through my background at Rhodes. I learned how a small-scale nonprofit functions in France and the steps that are necessary for funding and management. I was able to attend ACAPEL's general assembly and observe their budget discussions and administrative decision processes. One of the most exciting opportunities was attending France's National Asylum Court. I had the opportunity to attend court proceedings and witness the process of people coming in to appeal for asylum. I have some experience working with refugees in Memphis, so to be able to compare and learn more about the refugee process in France was a unique and rewarding experience.

## Sarah Kate Childs '24

**Hometown:** H . . i e AL

**Major:** l e a i a S die

**City/Country:** A . ig a G a e aa

**Employer:** Di ecci M . ici pa de a M e

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I interned with the Dirección Municipal de la Mujer in the Municipalidad in San Antonio Aguas Calientes, which is the local governmental office for women. While the office does serve all the women in the

community in various capacities, its primary project is the distribution of materials to indigenous women to help them make textiles. Such a project relieves the financial burden from the initial costs of weaving by providing enough resources for the women to complete a full project, which they can use either for themselves or sell for profit. My responsibilities were to help set up, organize, and distribute the resources of the office. I did so by packaging materials, organizing the textile resources, paperwork, and archives in the office, meeting local women to give out the materials, and conducting house visits to ensure the women knew how to weave before receiving their resources. In addition to propelling my Spanish language skills, this internship allowed me to have an immersive experience in an indigenous community and learn so much about the local norms, values, and

traditions. It challenged me to think in new ways about what makes a human rights group successful and provided me with immense knowledge about the governmental operations in Guatemala.

## Maya Khalife – Hamdan '25

**Hometown:** P . a d OR

**Major:** l e a i a S die a d S pa i h

**City/Country:** Sa . iag Chi e

**Employer:** H a Righ Re ea ch Ce . e a

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I am extremely fortunate to have lived in Chile during an unprecedented historical moment in the country's history. During my stay, Santiago was undergoing a constitutional rewrite and civil society was hile