

## **UVA in India: Internship Examples**

Analyzing organizations/working with organizations:

Students read extensively as well as work on projects at a range of different organizations. A few examples of their research and work include the following:

Action Aid (2017 student): research and on the ground assessments of the Safety and Dignity for Women and Girls program to empower women and girls. Programming to provide comprehensive sexual education, and advocate at governmental level. Conduct research regarding children's right to schooling in India and policies and practices to ensure they receive a quality education.

Nasscom (2017 student): Internship at Maroon.ai, a big data marketing company. Working as a consultant in a start up to research strategies implement by industries that the company is helping as a consulting and marketing company using big data. Learning about consulting and startups. This student is also conducting a survey on Artificial Intelligence in India and policy and pragmatic implications for India in the long term. He is doing comparative research on Korea and Japan as well. The paper will be published and will make him the local Indian authority on AI.

Public Health Foundation of India (2016 student): one student created a literature review on the social determinants of adolescent health throughout the WHO's South East Asia region. Read 50+ studies/reports on barriers to health access in these 11 countries. Developed a "findings" section on some of the most prominent barriers to health care access. Overall, produced a 30-page report on all of my research. Also attended weekly lectures at the office and the annual Symposium. Last but not least, participated in a vulnerability assessment at an unauthorized colony and a slum (both on the outskirts of Delhi). Looked at access to basic amenities, education, health care facilities, etc. Another evaluated the empirical research methods of public health scholarship//fieldwork. She analyzed the literature on urban sex workers with a human-rights based lens and gained a greater understanding how research can (and should be) conducted. Specifically, she saw how the studies did not empower or benefit sex workers in any way for their participation. One of the most exciting parts of the internship for her was conducting fieldwork in a resettlement colony and an unregistered slum. One student will be coming back to India to work again in an NGO (as a stepping stone to working closely with the structure of such organizations) and for another her research allowed her to understand the nature and value of research to projects on the ground.

Action India (2016 student): researching issues around municipal waste disposal and land use. The student was charged with researching and helping to plan various possible initiatives for the NGO to undertake. I was also charged with communicating with other NGOs and firms over possible collaborations on projects. Finally, to research and write and edit grant proposals for the NGO; the differential between the projects and the demands laid on NGOs by funding agencies were one of the many lessons here, in addition to how projects are conducted, how collaborations built and what cities imagine as their obligations to residents and how they might be fulfilled. The student studied urban policy, political initiatives, and ecologies.