The Seuss Project

A collaboration between Commonwealth Honors College and the Springfield Museums, the Seuss Project offers a set of practicum independent study opportunities. The projects are related to the new Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum and other museum programs in Springfield, Massachusetts. The new museum honors the life and work of Springfield native Theodor Seuss Geisel (aka Dr. Seuss) and promotes literacy, teamwork, and creative thinking.

Honors students are invited to work on and off campus to support the programs of the Springfield Museum. Applications for Fall 2018 are due by 5:00 p.m. on August 27, 2018. Students interested in any of the projects described below should direct inquiries to dean@honors.umass.edu.

APPLY

Practica

The practicum opportunities offer experiential learning for 2 pass/fail credits. In addition to working with the public through the following opportunities, students will learn how a museum operates through field trips to Amherst-area museums.

The practicum opportunities are:
THE CAT’S CORNER INTERNSHIP Interns based in The Cat’s Corner (located on the lower level of the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum) will facilitate the day-to-day operations for the hands-on literacy activities in a family drop-in space. In addition, interns will track visitation, assist with school group visits, and offer visitors guidance and interpretation in the galleries of The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum. Interns must commit to working one 4-hour shift per week, in addition to special events.

Responsibilities:

• Learning about the collections of Springfield Museums as a whole, with a focus on the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum, and specifically, the life and works of Theodore Geisel a.k.a. Dr. Seuss. Welcoming and creating a sense of belonging for a wide diversity of visitors.
• Helping to develop, prepare, facilitate, and track hands-on educational activities for families across disciplines.
• Assist with preparation of materials for future projects.
• Working collaboratively with other interns and staff.
• Aid in maintaining galleries located on the first floor of the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum.
• Interns need to pass a CORI check.

Interns must commit to working one 4-hour shift per week and have their own transportation to the Museums. Available shifts: Tuesday-Saturday 10 am-2 pm or 1-5 pm; Sunday 11 am-3 pm. Interns need to pass a CORI check.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT INTERNSHIPS Interns will help run the day-to-day operations of the Art Discovery Center, volunteer at upcoming family programs, and help in other aspects of the Education department as needed.

Responsibilities:

• Learning about the collections of Springfield Museums as a whole, with a focus on the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum, and specifically, the Art Discovery Center.
• Welcoming and creating a sense of belonging for a wide diversity of visitors.
• Helping to develop, prepare, facilitate, and track hands-on educational activities for families across disciplines.
• Interns need to pass a CORI check.

Fall and Spring semester interns must commit to working 1 day per week, Tuesday-Sunday, 12-4 pm, plus special events, and have their own transportation to the Museums. Requirements include a desire to work with children and families and a strong sense of commitment and reliability. Interns need to pass a CORI check.