

Why did I take this internship:

To gain real world experience using the web design/development tools I was introduced to in Cabrillo College's Web Design program. To begin learning the language, workflow and skills required to push my freelance business from a web design to web development focus. I wanted to be able to begin feeling confident in marketing myself as a freelance web developer.

What have I gained from the experience:

An overview understanding of Agile programming methodologies, advanced PHP programming techniques and the use of IDE's and associated third-party plugins. I have also learned how important it is to work within a group rather than by oneself. Two minds are better than one as they say.

What are my employment goals:

To apply this new knowledge to current and future projects within my own business and seek out a contract or other internship situations with a web development firm in order to continue learning from peers in the this field.

If/How this experience will help you achieve these goals:

Being provided an overview of the inner workings of the trade, I feel I have a better assessment of where I am currently, where I need to be, and what I need to do to achieve my goals.

Roger Smith

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*Why did you take this internship?*

As I had recently completed the local community college's most advanced programming courses, I was still relatively inexperienced regarding working on a development team. I wanted to learn more about programming and the practices that occur on a workplace team.

*What did you gain from the experience?*

I gained hands-on experience working on a preexisting code-base, experience working with new team members, experience adjusting my coding style to match the team standard and insights into application development.

*What are your employment goals?*

My goal (among others & eventually) is to start a idea factory/startup incubator in Santa Cruz, Ca.

*How will this experience help achieve these goals?*

Working on a new team in a professional setting has prepared me for a multitude of collaborative relationships. The environment combined with the internship is unique and could be a gateway to success!

Merrick Clark

Cabrillo Student

Thank you for creating the PHP internship opportunity. This has been an ideal transition from the classroom back to the work place. I took this internship for a number of reasons. I was looking to work part time in Santa Cruz where I could learn current software development practices while making a contribution to a software company.

The internship has given me a chance to gain some recent work experience skills and business contacts. The cycle was long enough to be productive and gave me experience using current development tools.

This has been a venue to implement classroom lessons on a live project. Software development involves many skills that can best be acquired by working with a team. Working with other students created a cooperative and productive environment. The leadership and instruction have been enthusiastic and insightful.

My goal is to work locally as a programmer. Working downtown in this entrepreneurial environment has stimulated my business creativity. This experience has given me an introduction back to the technology business world. It has given me a perspective on the programming and technical skills that are currently valuable.

Both you and Bennett have made this challenging and rewarding. I appreciate your effort and the opportunity that you have created.

Sincerely,

Linda Donohue

Dear Madam/Sir,

I took the ScratchSpace Internship because I wanted to gain a better understanding in web development technologies that exist today. These included: a better understanding of HTML, PHP, Javascript (with jQuery), & MySQL. I am happy to say that I have gained a significant understanding in these tools/languages for me to feel more confident as a web developer. I have had several jobs commuting from Scotts Valley to Mountain View, and I can say commuting that much is definitely not an enjoyable experience. One of the primary reasons that web design has appealed so much to me is that I have always enjoyed the comfort of being able to work from almost anywhere. ScratchSpace has let me continue to enjoy this luxury by letting me not have to commute over the hill to find an internship that is both educational and rewarding.

My employment goals have always closely mirrored my non-commuting mentality. Ideally, I really would like to set up/work for a company that is in Santa Cruz than work for a company in San Jose (or further). It seems obvious growing up that if one wants to find any technical jobs, then one must look towards Silicon Valley. Santa Cruz has always been a place that has been significantly lacking in tech jobs. The University of Santa Cruz, although wonderful in its theoretical approach to computer science, largely lacks classes that take practical approaches to learning—especially in regards to web development. As an unfortunate result, in order for one to gain a hands-on understanding of the business world, one must look elsewhere. Internships like the one at ScratchSpace help battle these shortcomings in our system. By educating individuals here, people like me can pour back into the community by doing such things as creating websites, apps, etc... for local business instead of them having to be "outsourced" to potential over-the-hill companies.

In conclusion, I strongly urge those who are able to help promote the ScratchSpace internship to do so. This has definitely been a rewarding experience for me, and I hope that others in the future can get the same experience I have had.

Sincerely,

Derek Selander  
UCSC Computer Science Undergraduate

Why you took this internship?

- Over the spring I took a class about social networking in UCSC. I originally took the class because I despised most of the current social networks (especially Facebook and Myspace) for they have manipulated and controlled all of my friends from participating in the outdoor activities with me, or as I would call it adventures! From taking this course, I have grown fond of database structures and how much of an impact it could benefit in society. I always wanted to, somehow, create a social networking website that would revolutionize they way we socially network within each other by the question that my professor left with me "How do we make social networks more personal?" During the fall I found a flier on UCSC, it had big bold letters saying 'got PHP?', then I had to check out this internship. I saw this internship as a gateway for me to reconnect people to the worldand benefit society as a whole.

What you gained from the experience?

I was a lost student before I took up this internship. This internship has taught me how teamwork works in the business world. The class was taught several tools that would benefits how to organize team based projects such as eclipse, clean code, ticket trackers, and more. I also learned a lot more of html, php, and javascript. My favorite thing that I learned was the powerful kohana framework and how it uses the MVC methodology. Other than that the most important knowledge that I gained from this experience is that anyone can become an entrepreneur, you just have to go looking for it!

What are your employment goals?

- Create a few websites for friends to get a small income as well as better my web design skills.  
- I want to become an entrepreneur by creating a social networking website to help people help other people.

If/How this experience will help achieve these goals?

- I am going to be doing a project that is very large and this class has taught that clean code is very important. As long as if you create a mess, you project will not haunt you later on. It's like having a clean room will allow you to find your car keys so you will never be late to work. This internship has also taught more about my future career more than what my college education has to offer.

Albert DeGuzman

UCSC Student