

Cooperating with FBE: Internships and consulting projects

Students at the Faculty of Business and Economics can explore the business world during their studies through a consulting project, internship or practice-oriented master's thesis. As a company, you can benefit from this cooperation, as students often have a fresh view on current issues or challenges. Together with the student, you can work on creative solutions and innovative recommendations.

Different forms of cooperation

As a company or organisation, you can collaborate with a student on an internship, consulting project or practice-oriented master's thesis:

Within the **consulting project and the practice-oriented master's thesis**, a master's student analyses a real business problem and makes concrete, realistic recommendations based on his/her own synthesis. These recommendations are presented in the form of a final report and presentation.

The (voluntary) internship consists of a period in which the student works within a company or organisation on concrete ongoing projects or assignments. The student makes a reflection report at the end of the internship. Students can also do an internship on a voluntary basis.

Who are the students at FBE?

Students from the **Business Economics** and **Economic Policy** master's programmes have an in-depth (business)economics background. Depending on the chosen specialisation, students focus in their master's on accountancy, finance, data science, marketing, etc. Within the master's programmes of **Business Engineering** (Financial Engineering) and **Business Engineering in Management Information Systems**, in addition to the business economics knowledge, the focus is respectively on technological courses, innovation and management information systems.

In addition, the faculty offers specialised master's programmes in **Organisation and Management, Cultural Management, Professional Communication and Maritime and Logistic Management**.

Conditions for projects

For the **consulting projects and practice-oriented master's thesis**:

- The project focuses on a specific problem or challenge within the company;
- The project enables the writing of a final report with a clear problem statement, analysis and recommendations (e.g. no data collection without analysis and synthesis);
- The project is not limited to the mere description of structures, processes and tasks or to the performance of daily activities.

- Examples:
 - Analysing certain trends within a field and evaluating their impact on an organization;
 - Market research with recommendations;
 - Cost analysis of a product with recommendations;
 - A strategic analysis to enter a new market;
 - Analysis and investigation of the possibilities of bundling logistic flows;
 - ...

For the **internship**:

- The project is related to the students' education in the broad field of business economics, economic policy, technology and management information systems;
- During the internship, the student performs work that corresponds to the level of a 3rd bachelor or master student.

Course of a consulting project or internship

Step 1: Through [our website](#), you can submit a proposal for an internship, consulting project and/or practice-oriented Master's thesis. You should provide a thorough description. On the basis of the supplied information, the topic is screened internally. If the topic is sufficiently compatible with the study programmes and challenging in terms of content, it is shared with the students via the electronic learning platform. They can consult these projects at all times, but will search for them more actively in the indicated periods.

Step 2: An interested student is brought into contact with you. An exploratory interview is scheduled and if this is positive, the student draws up a plan of action together with the supervisor within your organisation and a faculty supervisor (in the case of a consulting project or practice-oriented Master's thesis).

Step 3: After approval, an internship contract can be drawn up and the student can start.

Internships, consulting projects and practice-oriented Master's theses can take place in the **summer months and/or during the academic year**. Students must be able to combine their study programme with the project or internship. Therefore, full-time internships or projects are not appropriate for most students (except, for example, for students who only need to complete a few courses or their Master's thesis). In the periods August - September, February - March, collected projects are presented to the students via the interactive student platform.

Projects and proposals may be shared via [our website](#). If you would like to receive **more information** or if you have specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact us: praktijkproject.fbe@uantwerpen.be. We will gladly brainstorm with you about the design and organisation of possible projects.