**MDA 250: Internship for the Liberal Arts: Work and Career – Theory and Practice**

**Dr. Jessica Wells Cantiello**

**Wednesdays 12:00-1:50 pm, THH 119**

MDA 250 Internship for the Liberal Arts is taken concurrently with an internship to ensure that students get the most out of their off-campus experiences. Drawing from best practices in experiential and service learning, the course centers on rigorous reflection, both in writing and in person. Students consider all aspects of their internship and serve as sounding boards for each other as the semester progresses. Students contextualize their experiences by joining into cultural and academic conversations about relevant topics, such as the ethics of unpaid internships, the nature of work in the 21st century, and identity dynamics in the workplace. The course provides guidance on professionalization, enabling students to frame their internship experiences in future professional endeavors. Course requirements include the development and tracking of an intern learning plan, weekly reflective journal entries, in-class and online discussion participation/reading responses, and a final professional dossier, including an updated resume, cover letter, and final reflection.

Notes:

* **The class meets every other week in person, and attendance at all class sessions is mandatory.**
* This is a two-credit, graded course, though you should strongly consider taking it P/NP.
* All enrolled students must work a minimum of eight hours per week and start the internship by Friday January 26.
* To enroll, fill out the form at [dornsife.usc.edu/mda250](http://dornsife.usc.edu/mda250" \t "_blank)
* If you have questions about your internship or registration logistics, contact Maria Velasquez at [mvelasqu@usc.edu](mailto:mvelasqu@usc.edu). If you have questions about the content of the course itself, email jessica.cantiello@usc.edu .