

## Transcript

Title: Ask me anything

Creator: Work Integrated Learning

Year: 2023

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### ***Ask Me Anything: Professional Internships Swinburne University of Technology***

ZAYED: Hi, my name is Zayed and I studied Bachelor's of Business Marketing, and I did my professional internship at People to People.

ISABELLA: Hi, my name is Isabella and I studied a Bachelor of Media and Communications, and I completed my professional internship at Swinburne.

ESTE: Hi, my name is Este and I'm studying Bachelor of Arts, and I'm doing an internship with Mobile Innovation Network Association.

So what was the first day of the internship like for you guys?

ZAYED: Well, for me, I was a bit nervous and I had low expectations. However, when I came in I was greeted with warm welcome and they were all making me feel part of the team, and they made me guide every questions that I had to ask them. They made me feel seen and be heard as well when I was working with them. So that's what made me feel in the first day. What about you, Isabella?

ISABELLA: I think on your first day of an internship, there's a lot of nerves surrounding when you I guess open the door and greet the team that you'll be working with, but it's really all about getting your work laptop and your staff ID and a bit of onboarding and meeting the team. So you really are guided throughout the whole day and the first few weeks especially. So you're definitely not alone and you're supported throughout the whole process.

ESTE: I think for mine, because I did mine hybrid, both online and onsite, I started my internship back in Malaysia when I was still back home, and I just started with a meeting with my supervisor and he helped me transition through the period of moving from Malaysia and back to Melbourne. So he answered every question I had, and luckily I got a very nice supervisor.

ISABELLA: So Zayed, what was the best main character moment during your internship?

ZAYED: When I was working two months at home with People to People, I get to embrace my inner recruitment rockstar. So what I've done, I was jamming through music through my headphones and through my laptop, and I was able to rock the virtual interviews. I sourced top talents and nailed the virtual recruitment process.

ESTE: I think for mine, because throughout the whole internship for my company, I was the only one there. It was me and my supervisor. So I was literally the main character of the whole team. I was the only one interning. Yes. How about yours, Isabella?

ISABELLA: I would say it would probably be when a lot of the teams started coming to me with their communication and marketing inquiries. It made me feel like the insights and perspective that I was bringing to the team was valued and could contribute in a meaningful way.

ZAYED: What is your number one piece of advice for students starting an internship?

ISABELLA: I would say to ask lots of questions throughout your internship. It's easy to fall into the misconception that asking questions, I guess, highlights gaps in your knowledge, but in actual fact, you really only learn through asking questions and getting help from the team. So ask as many questions as you can from day one would be my top tip.

ESTE: So Zayed, what surprised you most about your internship? Was it just getting coffees and running around with a clipboard, like the movies?

ZAYED: I wish it was like that, but not really. It was more like how they allowed me to elevate my essential skills, my marketing skills, and how they also let me do projects as well, like meaningfully work on projects. Do you have any tips to aid the recruitment process?

ISABELLA: Yeah, sure. So I think it's cliché, but be yourself. I think a lot of skills can be taught, and especially going into an internship, you're not expected to know everything, and employers know that. So I think if you just present yourself really well and highlight all the great attributes you can bring to a team, and the value you can add in those ways, I think you're already halfway there.

So Este, how has your internship helped elevate your portfolio?

ESTE: I think for me, because my supervisor really pushed me, encouraged me to learn new stuff, and so I learned a lot of editing and social media marketing from my internship, and that really helped me make my portfolio ideal for future employers. So Isabella, how did you find balancing a part-time internship and your studies?

ISABELLA: Yeah, so I really enjoyed it. I really liked the diversity I had in my week, so I was going to my lectures and tutorials on campus and then spending a couple of days in industry, and it was really rewarding to start applying the theory that I was learning in the classroom to actually real world industry briefs and projects. So yeah, I really enjoyed it.

ZAYED: What is your number one piece of advice for students starting an internship, Este?

ESTE: I think, like Isabella said before, come with questions and everything. And I think over-prepare, there's no such thing as over-preparing anything, but it's better to be over-prepared than under-prepared for something. If you have a question you want to ask and you think it's stupid, it's fine, just ask it. Like you're over-prepared for it rather than coming unprepared.

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