Stanford in Washington

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The Bing Stanford in Washington program provides highly-qualified undergraduates with an opportunity to work and study in the nation’s capital. In addition to providing students with an understanding of public policy making, the program offers an opportunity to take advantage of the city’s unique cultural resources.

Central in the student’s educational experience is a full-time internship. Students serve as interns at such institutions and agencies as the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Office of Management and Budget, the White House, the National Institutes of Health, the Smithsonian Institution, CNN, World Bank, the departments of State, Justice, Treasury, Education, and Health and Human Services.

In addition to the internship, students also complete an academic course of study consisting of small courses taught by policy experts, and weekly seminars taught by Stanford faculty members. Seminars are generally 3-5 units. Past topics have included congressional oversight and the press; economic growth and development patterns, policies, and prospects; critical health issues in the U.S. and abroad; policy making in the Washington community; and criminal justice policy. Speakers from the Washington policy community frequently join students and faculty for discussions. Students often write a major paper related to their internship for 3-5 units of credit. Course and seminar topics vary according to student and faculty interest.

The Bing Stanford in Washington program offers stretch quarters in the Autumn and Spring (early September to mid-December, and late March to the end of June) and a regular quarter in Winter, which focuses on environmental policy, health policy and the arts. The program is designed for students in their junior year or during the first or second quarter of their senior year. Applications must be completed two quarters in advance, and three quarters in advance if a student is overseas or otherwise not on campus during the qualifying quarter.

Students interested in the program should contact the campus office of the Bing Stanford in Washington program; see contact information above.