MSc Humanitarian Engineering Research Projects
Frequently Asked Questions

Is offering a student project like hiring an intern?

No. A Final Research Project is a summer engagement between a student, from the MSc Humanitarian Engineering postgraduate programme and a corporate client. Students undertaking a project do so as part of their Academic Programme with each project requiring clear, specific objectives and a strategy focused outcome in order for the student to deliver a specific piece of work of value to the organisation. The research conducted forms the basis of a student's academic dissertation which is completed and submitted early September.

An internship by contrast is usually designed to give a student an insight into a particular organisation or career, rather than focused on an individual project, although a project may subsequently arise through the internship.

What are the benefits to my organisation in offering a student project?

- Access to an international talent pool of high quality individuals.
- Fulfilment and delivery of projects for which there may be limited internal resource.
- Critical thinking and fresh perspective.
- Project outcomes can result in cost savings, improved systems or processes, or provide research and suggestions into a specific area with relevance to your organisation.
- Projects can be viewed as a three month 'interview' for potential employees.
- Increase your organisation's profile at the University of Warwick.

Is there much documentation to complete?

No. The process is designed to be as easy as possible for you to recruit a student for your project. There are only three key forms which you will be required to complete/sign at various points in the process:

1. Project Brief
2. Non-Disclosure Agreement (if required)

What are the 2021--2022 key dates in the projects process?

The process takes around 8-10 weeks from the point the project is approved to the date students begin the project.

Key dates for Project Clients are:

Activity	Date
Final Date for Submission of Projects	Monday 31 January 2022
Projects advertised to students	Monday 14 February - Sunday 06 March 2022
Projects allocated to students	By Monday 21 March 2022
Students Start Projects	Monday 06 June 2022
Students Submit Projects	Thursday 08 September 2022

We aim to have students matched to projects as soon as possible, to allow for preparations to be made and for background work to start, it may be possible that shortlisting and interviews are not required depending on the number of student interested in the project. Or you may just want to meet with the student directly to ensure the match will be suitable. While our objective is for all clients to successfully recruit students into their projects, this is a competitive process and many students will have multiple project offers, so we cannot guarantee you will have a student for your project.

Please note that we are happy to work with you flexibly, but due to projects forming part of students' academic programmes, these dates are fixed.

How much support do I need to provide?

Each project will have an Academic Director from the University of Warwick. Clients will need to allocate an employee as a mentor or point of contact for the student and the Academic Director. Contact time depends on the

nature of the project, but access to data, people and office space (if required) for the student needs to be made a priority and agreed at the outset of the project.

Can I specify certain skills or experience?
Yes. Please provide as much information as possible in the project brief to ensure you receive applications from suitably qualified candidates. As with a job advert, you can request that a student has experience in a certain area, define skills required to successfully complete the project or you could also request that students have covered an academic module directly relevant to your project area. Our students are multidisciplinary in nature and while all completing the MSc in Humanitarian Engineering (with Sustainability and Management specialties) have a wide variety of Undergraduate disciplines.

What is the duration of a student project?
Projects typically last 12-15 weeks. We do not recommend that projects start earlier than the stated date, as in the interests of fairness, all students should have the same amount of time to complete their projects.

Where is the student expected to be based?
Students shall be working either on campus or at home given the COViD-19 circumstances. The location, working hours and expected attendance pattern should be discussed and agreed with the student, their Project Supervisor and the Programme Director.

What can I expect at the end of a project?
The MSc Humanitarian Engineering project process is very much a mutually beneficial partnership between Warwick, the company and the student. While the project underpins the student's academic dissertation, dependent on the nature of the project, you may wish to specify a separate organisational deliverable as part of your project (e.g. management report, a formal presentation for your staff, or perhaps a strategy implementation plan). This will need to be scoped out at the very beginning of the project so all parties are aware of the final deliverable.

How will confidentiality be maintained?
Dissertations produced as a result of the projects process, must be marked internally by two Warwick Academics and a sample of these projects will also be subject to review by our External Examiners. However, data can be anonymised, and we have a standard Non-Disclosure Agreement that can be issued (if necessary) to give you peace of mind regarding the handling of business critical or sensitive data.

If I am interested how do I proceed?
If you have a specific project already in mind, please use the online form for submitting your Project Brief specification. If you would like to organise an exploratory discussion please contact Victoria Jelicic (Programme Manager) on hum.eng@warwick.ac.uk who will take you through the next steps.

We look forward to working with you!

On behalf of the Programme Team,

Georgia

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