

Intern, Study, and Connect in Silicon Valley

The Silicon Valley Program (SVP) provides emerging innovators and entrepreneurs from the Claremont Colleges with an off-campus study semester that integrates a high-impact internship experience, related coursework, and professional development and networking opportunities in the prime hotbed of global innovation, Silicon Valley.

Silicon Valley Program is an ultimate experiential learning opportunity.

Silicon Valley Program staff will work with you to fine-tune your resume, enhance your LinkedIn profile, and apply proven search strategies to gain a full-time semester internship in a company that speaks to your talents, passions, and professional aspirations. SVP interns have worked in start-ups, established companies, and non-profit organizations, learning what it takes to be successful in a wide range of functions, including: product management, data science and analytics, sales/business development, marketing, customer success, finance, human resources and software development.

The academic program is customized to your internship.

All four SVP courses are applied directly to what you will be learning and experiencing on the job as an academic intern. Your internship serves as the ultimate "laboratory" to bring the classroom to life.

Your experience is enhanced by numerous professional development opportunities.

From special master class speakers, to start-up pitch days, to evening networking dinners, to athletic and entertainment events, you will get to experience the heart of Silicon Valley while establishing and developing the personal and professional relationships with Claremont alumni, parents, friends, and employers, who can help you land successfully when you graduate.

Eligibility and Applications

SVP is coordinated by Claremont McKenna College. Second-semester sophomores, juniors, and seniors from any of the Claremont Colleges are eligible to apply, although non-CMC applicants should check with their home campus off-campus study office before applying. Applicants must have a minimum 9.0 cumulative GPA. Successful completion of ECON 50 CM or an equivalent course is required, but we will consider exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Applications are accepted at the beginning of every semester. Students who successfully complete the written application will be invited to interview with the SVP selection committee.



Fall 2021 SVP Academic Interns

Dates

SVP operates on the same schedule as the Claremont Colleges for both fall and spring semesters.

NEED MORE INFORMATION? CONTACT THE STAFF:

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DARREN FILSON Professor of Economics & Director, RLCIE dfilson@cmc.edu The curriculum includes four courses taught by Claremont McKenna College faculty. As discussed below, economics majors can take two of the courses as level 2 economics courses if desired.

All students are enrolled in the following courses:

ECON 065/165 CM: Innovation Management/Industrial Organization is a cross-listed course that can be taken as a level 1 or a level 2 economics course; the difference between the two lies in the assignments. This course uses economics to study firm strategy and industry evolution in contexts where innovation is important. We discuss imperfect competition and the main sources of competitive advantage, describe several stylized facts about innovation, consider factors that impact the generation and diffusion of innovations, study dynamic strategic interaction and how high-tech firms and industries evolve, and develop an understanding of the role and impacts of public policies in innovative industries. ECON 165 serves as an elective for the finance sequence at CMC, counts toward the Science Management major, and requires successful completion of ECON 101 CM Intermediate Microeconomics or equivalent.

LEAD 150 CM: Leadership, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Silicon Valley provides an overview of leadership, innovation, and entrepreneurship theories and constructs, with applications and implications for leading in innovative and cutting-edge organizations in Silicon Valley. Topics will range from leading creative, entrepreneurial teams to the leadership skills necessary to foster innovative organizations. A central theme will be to equip students with the knowledge and skills to be effective leaders in innovative organizations – both established firms and startups. This course satisfies the capstone requirement of the leadership sequence at CMC.

INT 030 CM: Silicon Valley Program Internship enables students to gain experience in innovative organizations by securing full-time internships in consultation with the program director. This experience complements the other coursework in the program to enhance students' understanding of the strategies and practices of innovative organizations, firm-level innovation ecosystems, high-tech markets and the regional system of innovation in Silicon Valley and the surrounding area. Whether credit is earned depends on the policies of each campus. This course satisfies the experiential requirement of the leadership sequence at CMC. In addition, each student enrolls in one structured independent study course. Offerings vary by semester (ECON 98 and 198 are always offered). The following list includes courses we anticipate providing in Fall 2022. If any Claremont-based courses are taught online, then it might be possible for an SVP student to obtain approval to select one as their fourth course. CMC and Pomona students may also be able to arrange a unique independent study in an area of their choice with a Claremont-based professor.

ECON 098/ 198 CM: Organizing for Innovation/Economics of Innovation is a cross-listed course that can be taken as a level 1 or a level 2 economics course. This course guides students through several individual and group projects grounded in economics that provide insights into how firms and other entities should organize themselves in order to generate innovations and appropriate returns. Links between the course content and the internship experiences are developed: the internship settings are like "labs" that provides examples of the concepts and frameworks developed in the course. ECON 198 requires successful completion of ECON 101 CM Intermediate Microeconomics or equivalent. ECON 98 is open to all students in the program. Either course satisfies the breadth requirement of the leadership sequence at CMC.

DS 181 CM: Advanced Projects in Data Science: Off-Campus Programs. SVP students interested in this option must identify a professor willing to supervise the course and petition the Director(s) of the Data Science program and the organizer of DS 180 for approval. If approved, DS 181 will replace DS 180 Advanced Projects in Data Science. To qualify for DS 181, the student's internship must involve data science, but the coursework in DS 181 will be distinct from the work the student does for their employer. This class requires successful completion of CSCI 036 CM and at least 2 other Data Science sequence courses.

ECON120 CM: Statistics is an introduction to probability theory and the logic of statistical inference with applications to economics and business. Topics include measures of central tendency and dispersion, point and interval estimation, hypothesis testing, correlation, decision theory, and regression analysis. This class requires successful completion of MATH 030 CM or equivalent.

	CMC ECONOMICS	CMC SCIENCE MANAGEMENT	RDS LEADERSHIP	LEADERSHIP SEQUENCE	FINANCE SEQUENCE	CMC DATA SCIENCE
INT 030 CM			\checkmark	\checkmark		
ECON 65 CM	Level 1					
ECON 165 CM	Level 2	\checkmark			\checkmark	
LEAD 150 CM			\checkmark	\checkmark		
Choice of one independent study course:						
ECON 98 CM	Level 1			\checkmark		
ECON 198 CM	Level 2			\checkmark		
ECON 120 CM	Level 1					
DS 181 CM						\checkmark