JOB SHADOWING PROGRAM

Industry Guide | Journalism, Arts, & Media

The Job Shadowing Program gives UChicago alumni, family, and friends the opportunity to support the professional development of current students by hosting them in their place of work for 1-5 days during the College’s break periods. The specific activities involved in a job shadowing experience vary between host sites, but essentially, any activity that gives the student a tangible sense of daily life in your field is suitable for the job shadowing experience.

WHAT CAN I HAVE STUDENTS DO?

START BY...
• Giving a tour of the facility
• Providing an overview of the company’s operations, staff divisions
• Sharing your personal career history

NEXT, SHOW THEM A “DAY IN THE LIFE” IN YOUR INDUSTRY...
• Assign the student(s) an interactive micro-project to simulate your own day-to-day work
  o Ask the student(s) to film and edit a short film
  o Assign a topic for the student(s) to write a small piece on
  o Show student(s) some past pieces by you and your colleagues
• Have the student observe the filming/data collection/journalism process in real-time
• Walk him/her through your editing and revision process

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING...
My job shadowing experience taught me about the dynamics of the art world and the various ways art is displayed, sold, and praised by those in the community. Exploring different venues such as galleries, cultural centers, and art studios showed me the different sides of the art process and how art carried a different message based on context.

OTHER IDEAS...
• Invite the student to observe meetings, conference calls, and other daily activities
• Resume/LinkedIn profile review
• Provide interviewing tips
• Discuss the student’s career interests and questions
• Organize an informational interview for the student