Bloom Consulting
Internship FAQs
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1. What is Bloom Consulting all about?
Bloom Consulting is an international consulting company, with headquarters based in Madrid, Spain, but with offices in Portugal and Brazil as well. Our expertise lies in:
1. Development of countries (country branding)
2. Brand strategy (for countries, regions, and cities)
3. Human asset management
We have been interviewed by the Economist and Forbes Magazine, and have been categorized as one of the key global players in this matter. We work hand in hand with many governments, as can be attested by our work with the Latvian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Brazilian, and Bulgarian governments. More information about Bloom on www.bloom-consulting.com.

2. How many people work at Bloom Consulting?
Usually we have around 12 people working in the Madrid office. There are mainly interns conducting research and working alongside the partner and freelancers around the world. The CEO works currently from the office in Lisbon and visits regularly.

3. Where do the internships take place?
Internships usually take place in the Bloom Consulting headquarters in Madrid. Exceptionally we also recruit interns for positions in Lisbon, Portugal.

4. What do Bloom interns do?
During the internship, every intern will be responsible for certain tasks and projects, as well as time management: setting up meetings and quality of the deliverables. Interns work on both internal and external Bloom Consulting projects; however, the exact jobs performed by the interns depend on the current projects which Bloom Consulting is working on. Possible roles include: project manager, analyst, technical analyst, media & communications manager, public relations manager, HR manager and IT manager. Therefore, typical tasks include collecting and analyzing data, creating and developing presentations, managing tasks so that deadlines are met, developing creative material, developing analysis and construction of financial metrics, and developing and/or managing projects for Bloom and their clients.
We will discuss the best available development plan with every intern, so that when assigning tasks to interns, their preferences and strengths are utilised. Moreover, we provide constant guidance, training and supervision throughout the internship program. Bloom Consulting is committed to making this time as beneficial and valuable as possible for every intern.
5. What kind of projects are interns involved in at Bloom Consulting?

We have internal and external projects for each role, whose typical tasks may include:

**HR Manager:**
- Communication with applicants
- Creating job advertisements and contacting universities
- Monitoring and maintaining the HR databases
- Managing the recruitment process (analyzing CVs, conducting Skype interviews, etc.)
- Leading the training exercises and first day activities for new interns
- Dealing with administrative tasks relating to new interns and leaving interns
- Creating a strategy on how to manage the Bloom Consulting Alumni

**Analyst:**
- Responsibility for specific tasks and projects that will involve preparing, maintaining and administrating corporate documents as well as monitoring and reporting results to the top management
- Development of new internal projects and the improvement of existing projects
- Gathering, collecting, analyzing, and reporting different types of data
- Conducting research, which will include consulting external sources, elaborating surveys, performing phone interviews, reviewing publications and browsing the Internet for data sources and information
- Processing Excel figures and PowerPoint presentations

**Technical Analyst:**
- Responsibility for specific tasks and projects that will involve preparing, maintaining and administrating corporate documents as well as monitoring and reporting results to the top management
- Process Excel figures, tools, conducting calculations, and developing analysis
- Gathering, collecting, analyzing, and reporting different types of data
- Conducting research which will include consulting external sources, elaborating surveys, performing interviews, reviewing publications and browsing the Internet for data sources and information

**Media and Communications Manager:**
- Monitoring and updating social media communication networks, project management, process implementation and follow up; involvement in media and social media strategy development
- Evaluating the effectiveness of media and social media campaigns, including the preparation of weekly status reports and monthly project reviews; preparing, maintaining and administrating social media documents
- To establish and maintain productive relationships with relevant media in order to promote specific Bloom Consulting projects; this includes: media planning on proactive and reactive stories, and research on promoted topics.
Public Relations Manager:
- Responsibility for the Public Relations of Bloom Consulting
- Contributing new ideas to the PR strategy of Bloom Consulting
- Contacting conferences, organizations and universities related to the field of country branding
- Contacting journalists and bloggers, calling their attention to the ranking and projects elaborated by Bloom Consulting
- Gathering, collecting, analyzing, and reporting different types of data, maintaining databases
- Conducting research, which will include consulting external sources, elaborating surveys, and browsing the Internet for data sources and information
- Processing Excel figures and PowerPoint presentations

IT Manager:
- Controlling and updating the corporate website and IT software; server development
- Solving operating problems
- Giving insights and proposing solutions to IT issues
- Website programming

6. When do the internships start?
For each internship position we have different starting dates. For more information please contact the HR Manager at: hr@bloom-consulting.com.

7. What is the duration of the internships offered?
Placements can be for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months. Although the time could be extended at our discretion, we are unable to accept applicants for less than 3 months.

8. What languages are used?
Daily office work is carried out in English, however speaking Spanish sometimes can be an advantage, and if you would like to speak Spanish in the work place, some colleagues can help you with this. However, if you do not speak Spanish, do not worry!

9. What are the working hours?
The working day is 8 hours, from 9.30 am to 6.15 pm, with 45 minutes of lunch break.

10. Are interns allowed to take days off?
For every 3 months of work, interns are allowed to take 5 days of holidays, on top of public holidays. If they take an exam for university on a specific day, this day will also be an additional day off.
11. Are interns paid?
No, unfortunately we are unable to offer payment, travel allowances or other types of monetary compensation. But we strongly advice everybody to apply for scholarships and grants, such as the ERASMUS+ program. Of course we will provide any assistance in filling out the forms in order for the intern to receive the scholarship.

12. What do interns need to bring with them?
They need to bring their own laptop in a good working order (with a Microsoft Office package – Word, Excel, Power Point), and a positive attitude. Interns should also regard the dress code “business casual”, so interns need to bring proper clothes to Madrid with them.

13. Who is the ideal intern?
We look for enthusiastic interns who have the desire to learn, work hard, and bring new and creative ideas to the company and to the clients.

14. What skills are required for an intern?
Interns must be fluent at speaking, reading and writing in English. They are expected to be familiar working with Microsoft Office programs (especially Word, Excel and Power Point). Also we highly value skills and characteristics like:
– Entrepreneurial mind-set to approach projects and tasks
– Ability to take initiative and show proactive approach to tasks
– Accountability, creativity, good communication skills and enthusiasm
– Organizational skills, with a proven ability to meet deadlines and give attention to detail
– Ability to work as part of a team and also individually

15. What will interns learn and what training will they receive?
Interns will gain real work experience. They will take on real projects for clients and may be put in charge of their own project. Interns learn to work in intercultural teams and how a consultancy firm is run, how to sell, create proposals and presentations, how to create marketing strategies, client relations, international markets and corporate culture. They will also strengthen their IT skills. All knowledge will lead to an impressive CV and to an in-depth knowledge of the sector.

*Interns will be given training for their specific tasks, and will be personally directed and supervised by the partner. Interns’ ideas are always heard and very often implemented in the company’s daily life.*
The Intern Development Plan

We have created a special program - the “Intern Development Plan” - to guide interns through the unique internship experience and also to get a better understanding of the internship tasks and expected outputs. The “Intern Development Plan” is composed of 3 phases: Set-up, Build, and Legacy. In every phase there will be specific tasks and milestones to achieve.

The Set-up phase will help interns to get a better understanding of “Bloom Consulting”. Interns will be mentored and will also receive specific training sessions.

The Build phase is the core of the program. Every intern will go through each of the 3 steps, either in one or several projects, during the internship duration:

1. Research
2. Internal and external Communication;
3. Production of outputs and deliverables.

The Legacy phase consists of the elaboration of manuals and training sessions to transfer the knowledge to other colleagues.

16. How are interns mentored?

There is an initial, mid-term and a final evaluation with the CEO or managing partner and the project manager, who will hold a meeting with the intern, assessing their expectations, motivations, strengths, and pointing out areas in which they can improve. The performance evaluation will take into account the specific project objectives that every individual is involved in as well as the attitude and professionalism demonstrated during the internship.

Mid-term.
To guide the development of the interns, there will be a coaching and review session with the top management half-way through the internship. This is an excellent opportunity to exchange thoughts and ideas regarding the internship experience. During the meeting, we will assess the intern’s strengths, and point out areas of potential improvement.

Final.
At the end of the internship, there will be a formal final evaluation meeting in which every intern will be evaluated on a scale ranging from ‘Unsatisfactory’ (>5) to ‘Extremely Outstanding’ (10). You will be given an evaluation certificate describing the tasks, achievements, and final grade. If your performance is Very Good or (Extremely) Outstanding (7-10) you will receive a personal evaluation certificate with more detail information about the internship and your performance. This will serve as a reference of the intern for their university, CV, or future employer.
17. How will this internship help in professional and working life?
Working side by side with experts in the consulting field and being responsible for international projects will enrich the interns’ CVs and give them an understanding of how consulting companies operate. Interns will also benefit from a multicultural experience, learning new ways of thinking and working. If interns score highly in their final evaluation, they will receive a personal letter of recommendation signed by the top management, who will also be happy to offer himself as reference for them in the future.

18. Are internships ever terminated?
Although these situations are very rare, interns who show a very poor performance or bad attitude towards their work and colleagues, may have their internships terminated.

19. How do candidates apply for an internship?
If interested, please send an email to hr@bloom-consulting.com with a CV and a Cover Letter attached, explaining why you want to do an internship, for how long, and when. Then we will get back to you as soon as possible.

20. How soon can candidates expect a response?
Usually we reply within 5 days. If you do not receive a response after this time, please e-mail us again, or call us to confirm that we have received the application.

21. Can unsuccessful candidates apply again?
Yes. There is no limit for the number of times candidates can apply.

22. What are the selection criteria?
To ensure that we hire only high-class candidates, the recruitment process consists of 3 stages. First— we evaluate candidates based on their CV and Cover Letter, as well as based on how interested and committed to Bloom they are. The best candidates will be chosen for the second stage where they will be asked to complete a task, related to the role they are applying for. Successful candidates in this second stage will be invited to a Skype interview, which is the final phase of the recruitment process.

23. What is Bloom’s outlook on paperwork?
At Bloom Consulting we are very environmentally friendly. We like to recycle and thus hardly print anything. Therefore, all procedures are carried out with digital signatures, which is legal according to the European system. All the accepted interns must send necessary forms to us in a word format. We can then fill them out, sign them, and return them in PDF format, ready for the intern to give it to the respective authority.
24. Testimonials of past interns.

Adrian (United Kingdom)
Position: Analyst
"Applying for my internship at Bloom Consulting was one of the best decisions I have made. From the people I worked with to the invaluable information I learned, this was an exceptional experience from the first minute to the last."

Andriana (Greece)
Position: PR Manager
"Being a part of the Bloom family was an unforgettable experience. Working here helped me improve my professional skills and gave me the chance to meet great people. I enjoyed every single minute!"

Vadim (Estonia)
Position: Analyst
"Thanks to Bloom I got a valuable experience in the consulting and branding industry. I was able to hone my analytical and problem solving skills, and work on real projects thus greatly improving my employability."

Evy (Belgium)
Position: Media Manager
"Bloom Consulting gave me such a nice experience, professionally and personally. Working on your own is probably the best way to learn and next to that there are always some really cool people in the office!"

Mark (USA)
Position: Technical Analyst
"Bloom offers a great environment to learn new business skills; it gave me a new perspective on organization and planning. The people are wonderful and I am now much better-equipped for my professional career."