CLASP
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP, ACTION & SERVICE PROGRAM

A unique hands-on learning experience during Summer Session III (July-August) that offers undergraduate students:

- A five-week internship
- A weekly social justice seminar
- A stipend of $500
- The opportunity to earn 3 course credits towards their degree

For more information and how to apply:

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Community Leadership, Action and Service Program (CLASP) is a service-learning experience that offers students first-hand experience in a community-based organization. Internship placements focus on a variety of social issues, including but not limited to youth empowerment, arts education, public health, literacy, domestic violence prevention, and food security.

Students gain valuable work experience while learning how organizations are addressing community challenges associated with social, economic, and political inequality.

CLASP is not simply a summer internship: students critically engage with issues such as immigration, social justice, and poverty and reflect on ways to create social change.

SEMINAR AND COURSE CREDIT

Throughout the duration of CLASP, students attend a weekly seminar on Thursdays (lunch is provided). The seminar provides interns the time and space to reflect on their internship experiences individually and as a group. Participants are encouraged to be self-reflexive and to analyze their experiences and the possibility of social change.

The seminar is designed to explore the broader social, economic, and political context of the issues addressed by their organization, with weekly topics ranging from poverty to social justice. Students are responsible for weekly readings as well as keeping a journal to record their reflections. The seminar format is a mix of discussions, films, workshops, and activities.

Students may receive 3 course credits for participating in CLASP. These course credits are internship credits offered through Women’s and Gender Studies and/or the Social Justice minor. The program has also counted towards degrees in Sociology, Criminal Justice, Public Health, Psychology, and many more.
INTERNSHIPS

The CLASP internship sites are community-based organizations in New Brunswick, NJ. Although internship sites vary each year, all selected organizations work in some capacity to address inequalities related to gender, race and/or class. Past internship sites include:

- New Labor
- Unity Square Partnership
- Arts Mentoring Against Drugs, Racism and Violence (AMARD&V)
- Elijah’s Promise
- Manavi
- Young Audiences

Students are placed in a non-profit organization for a five-week internship in July and August to assist with a specific project or program. Internships culminate in the design and presentation of a workshop at the internship site. Schedules vary depending on the organization, but internships generally total 24 hours a week, completed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Undergraduate students enrolled at Rutgers University with a minimum GPA of 3.0 may apply to CLASP.

Graduating seniors may not apply. CLASP is open to students of all genders and we encourage applications from LGBT & GNC students, students of color, disabled students, non-traditional students and veterans. All majors and college affiliations are welcome!

Recommendation forms filled out by a Professor or Community Leader are required. Please contact IWL.CLASP@gmail.com to let us know where to send the electronic form. Physical recommendation forms are available upon request.

Application forms may be completed online and all supporting materials including unofficial Rutgers University transcripts and updated resumes can be emailed directly to IWL.CLASP@gmail.com. Please write your name in the subject line.

Selected internship sites may require interviews. The application deadline for CLASP is March 22nd. Students will be notified about admissions by May 1st.

TO APPLY VISIT: [http://iwl.rutgers.edu/programs_claspapply.html](http://iwl.rutgers.edu/programs_claspapply.html)