

# Internships and Professional Assignments

## Spatial & Environmental Planning



# Collaborating with HAS University of Applied Sciences

HAS University of Applied Sciences is the top educational and expertise centre for the agriculture, food and the green environment sectors, with sites in ‘s-Hertogenbosch and Venlo in the Netherlands. Our educational approach is based on our ‘We DO IT’ strategy: for every student at HAS, our teaching is grounded in Value Creation, Sustainability, Entrepreneurship, Internationalisation and Talent-oriented Learning. HAS University of Applied Sciences is an academic institution at upper professional level (Dutch HBO) with a market-oriented approach. Our main focus is on finding an excellent fit with the needs of the professional field. That makes us keen to collaborate with you.

Putting the needs of your organisation as well as the student's learning process first is how we work. Does your business have a pressing issue that demands to be solved? If the problem is suitable for a higher professional level (Dutch: HBO) student and can be carried out during a period defined in advance, an intern or final year student could be the perfect solution. It is essential for students to gain practical experience in their professional field. This provides them with a head start in professional practice within the field where they will later work.

**Every HAS student spends 1.5 years doing practical work**  
Students engage in project-based learning, right from the first year of their study programme. They also go on field trips and visit businesses. In the third year they have two research internships, including one compulsory internship abroad. In the fourth year, HAS students carry out a graduation research project to qualify for graduation: this is an assignment from a business, worked on by a team of students, under supervision of lecturers and advisers.

**Passion for their study programme**  
HAS University of Applied Sciences has 3,800 full-time students studying in 16 study programmes. Students who study at HAS University of Applied Sciences are passionate about their profession because it requires passion to develop talents and realise ambitions.

## Courses at Den Bosch campus

- Animal Husbandry & Animal Care
- Applied Biology
- Business Administration & Agri-foodbusiness
- Environmental Innovation
- Food Innovation
- Food Technology
- Geo Media & Design
- Horticulture & Arable Farming
- Horticulture & Business Management
- International Food & Agribusiness
- Spatial and Environmental Planning

## Courses at Venlo campus

- Applied Biology
- Business Administration & Agri-foodbusiness
- Business Management in Agriculture & Food
- Food Innovation
- Healthy Living

# Spatial & Environmental Planning

The first academic year of the higher professional study programme Spatial & Environmental Planning is a foundation year. Spatial Planning, Landscape and Urban Landscape are examples of first-year subjects. Starting in year 2, they follow subjects in line with the graduation specialisations: Landscape Planning & Development, Landscape Design or Landscape Engineering.

During the study programme Spatial & Environmental Planning, students work on projects that give them an insight into the design process, area analysis and the fundamentals of concept development and design. They also work on developing their creativity, imagination and presentation skills. Students learn to work with a number of ICT applications such as AutoCAD, SketchUp, Adobe

Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. The balance between theory and practice is very important, so students regularly work on increasing their practical expertise outside the university. The practical side is incorporated into the study programme by using realistic case studies and concrete assignments given to the programme by other organisations.

Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1	Landscape	Urban environment	Area development	Area design
2	Designing, draft plan and detailed plan (LD) Implementation (LE) Spatial policy (LPD)	Designing with landscape and space (LD) Strategic management (LE/LPD)	Integrated planning Designing between plan and partners (LD) (LE) (LPD)	Designing for town and nature (LD) Operational management (LE) People and process (LPD)
3	30 week internship (1 in the Netherlands - 1 abroad)			
	Broadening minor	Broadening minor	Broadening minor	Broadening minor
4	Project specialisation	Professional assignment (PA)		
	Research specialisation			



# Work experience internship (2nd year)

The subjects taught in the first academic year of the higher professional study programme Spatial & Environmental Planning showcase the whole breadth of the study programme. From Landscape to Urban Environment and from Regional Development to Area Design. After this broad orientation phase, students move on to get a taste of practical experience. The second year starts with the work experience internship during which the student takes 10 weeks to get to know the professional field and to see what the theory looks like in practice.

## What can you expect from the student?

During the work experience internship, the focus is on watching and working alongside people from your organisation. This gives the student an insight into the most important aspects of your business operations: financial and product flows, knowledge of the product/service, knowledge of your customers and buyers, insight into how your activities are organised, company culture and promotion.

For the student, the work experience internship has the following goals:

- To gain insight into how activities are performed within the business by deployment of staff, equipment and materials
- Critical observation, recording, analysing and reporting
- Developing their own initiative, increased social awareness and social skills
- To gain insight into the place/function of the business within its surroundings

## What are the advantages for your organisation?

Your organisation can certainly expect a motivated student with up-to-date knowledge and a positive attitude who participates as an enthusiastic team member.

The way that they look inquisitively at your own organisation and the sector you operate in can give fresh insights into your daily processes. Many students already have some working experience, though this is not always the case. With their up-to-date knowledge in the field of Spatial & Environmental Planning, the student may provide you with new insights and recommendations.

## Work experience internship characteristics

- The student is responsible for finding their own internship placement
- You appoint a practical supervisor from your organisation for the student
- The practical supervisor is responsible for the day-to-day supervision within your organisation, giving their opinion of the quality of the student's assignments and performance during the internship period
- A lecturer from the university acts as an additional coach for the student
- During the internship period, the student can invite their university coach and fellow group members, on one occasion
- During the internship period, the student is required to attend one intern return day at HAS
- During the internship period, you provide the student with working space at your organisation and sufficient time to work on their report





# The project internship within the Netherlands and project internship abroad (3rd year)

In the third year the student starts to actively apply their theoretical knowledge in professional practice during two project internships. In total, these two internships add up to 30 weeks. One of these takes place in the Netherlands and it is compulsory for the other one to take place abroad. During both internships, the student works on a problem or project on behalf of your organisation (in-depth assignment), with a focus on expanding their knowledge and specialisation.

## What can you expect from the student?

Whereas students get a broad orientation into your business and the sector during the work experience internship, during the project internships, in-depth learning is the focus. In addition to taking part in 'everyday practice', during the project internship the student carries out one or more in-depth assignments. These must be appropriate for the educational level, as assessed by the lecturer. In-depth assignments allow a student to specialise in a certain subject. It also allows them to get to know the company culture and organisational structure. During the internship abroad, the student widens their horizons, but it also helps them to increase their language skills and teaches them to work in a different culture.

Examples of in-depth assignments for Spatial & Environmental Planning students:

- Participation in a project team for a rather larger and more complex project with a duration comparable to the length of the internship
- Performing background research for a specific project, e.g. research into the developments within urban farming and the relevant design aspects
- Performing research into design processes, e.g. surveying possible applications for visualisation techniques such as (3D) imaging or sketching by hand.

In addition to participating in day-to-day design practice, the focus of this internship is on participating in and working on such assignments. Your organisation should be satisfied with the results of the in-depth assignment.

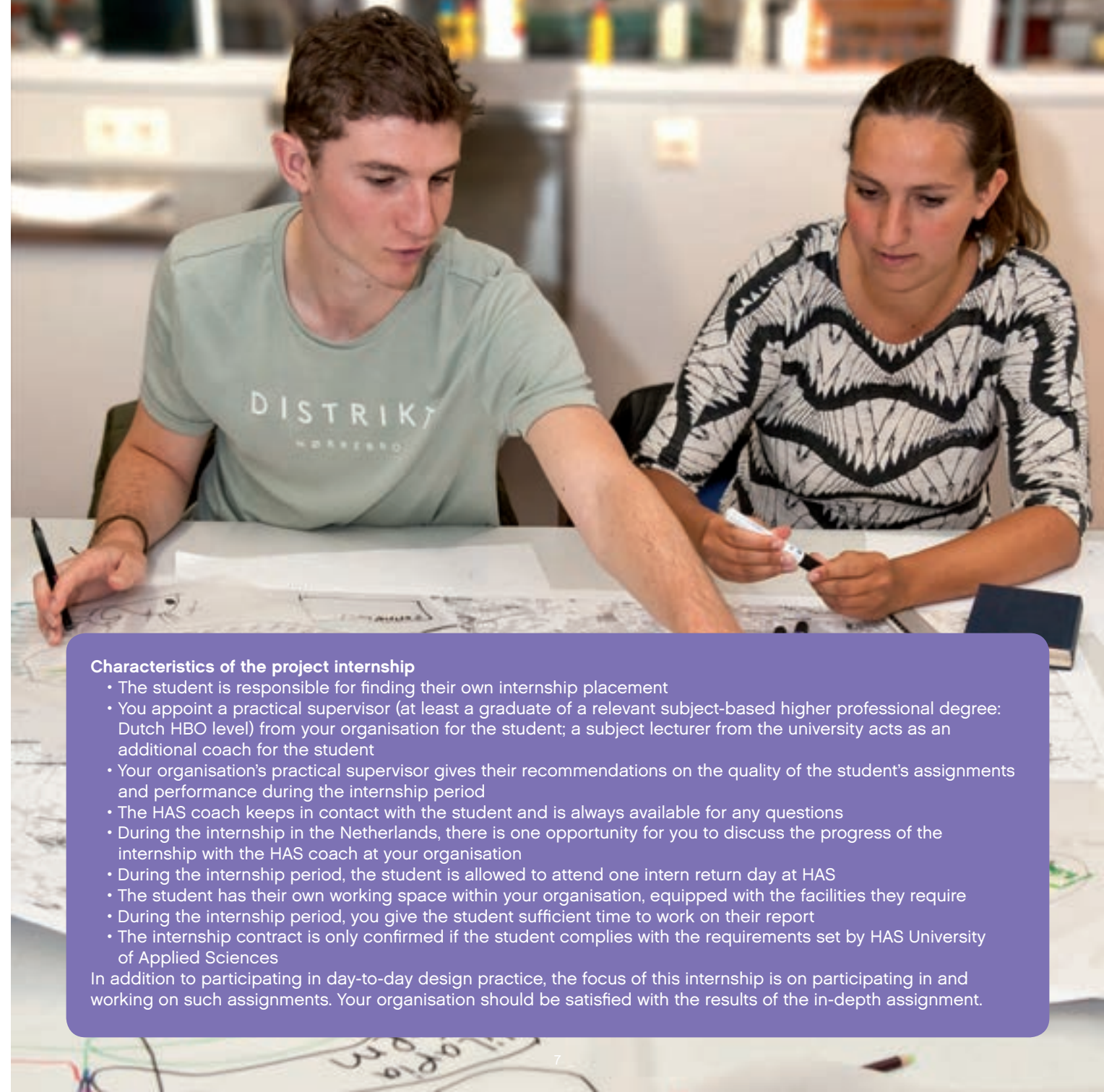
## What are the advantages for your organisation?

Students only start their project internships when they have already completed a considerable part of their study programme. You can therefore expect the student to have already gained some experience within the professional field of Spatial & Environmental Planning, for instance in working in a project context. In addition, the student will bring a fresh vision, contributing their ideas on the projects and processes within your organisation, on their own initiative and at your request.

## Characteristics of the project internship

- The student is responsible for finding their own internship placement
- You appoint a practical supervisor (at least a graduate of a relevant subject-based higher professional degree: Dutch HBO level) from your organisation for the student; a subject lecturer from the university acts as an additional coach for the student
- Your organisation's practical supervisor gives their recommendations on the quality of the student's assignments and performance during the internship period
- The HAS coach keeps in contact with the student and is always available for any questions
- During the internship in the Netherlands, there is one opportunity for you to discuss the progress of the internship with the HAS coach at your organisation
- During the internship period, the student is allowed to attend one intern return day at HAS
- The student has their own working space within your organisation, equipped with the facilities they require
- During the internship period, you give the student sufficient time to work on their report
- The internship contract is only confirmed if the student complies with the requirements set by HAS University of Applied Sciences

In addition to participating in day-to-day design practice, the focus of this internship is on participating in and working on such assignments. Your organisation should be satisfied with the results of the in-depth assignment.



# The professional assignment (4th year)

Students who graduate from HAS University of Applied Sciences achieve this by producing a professional assignment (PA). This assignment is structured differently to an internship. The professional assignment is an assignment appropriate to the specialisations of the students performing the assignment. It is performed as a team assignment, supervised by a project leader from HAS University of Applied Sciences.

## What can you expect from the student?

Final year students operate as young professionals in a project team consisting of two or more students from the Spatial & Environmental Planning study programme or another HAS study programme that matches your question. Your organisation can expect them to show an independent, decisive attitude. Students are assessed on their expertise and professionalism, but also on how they function within the team. The students have knowledge and expertise relevant to their field of study. They can solve a complex problem independently and in a team context, making use of a well thought out design in both technical and functional terms. Students also use the professional assignment to become further specialised with the professional field.

## What are the advantages for your organisation?

For the professional assignment, your organisation invests in project results and the time and expertise this requires from the experts. In return for this you receive an independently operating project team that determines the project approach, objectives and results in advance and in consultation with you. HAS Training & Consultancy is responsible for project organisation and coordination. They are also responsible for ensuring the agreements are met and for safeguarding the confidentiality of the project information and the results achieved. An expert project leader is always involved, acting as first point of contact and taking responsibility for team performance.

## HAS Training and Consultancy

Every year, over 1,000 companies and other organisations approach HAS University of Applied Sciences with their questions. These are questions both big and small in the fields of food, agribusiness, environment, green spaces, plant and animal husbandry. These questions range in size and complexity from an internship lasting several weeks to extensive research and from a market analysis to thinking up an innovative technological solution. The majority of all these projects that are presented to us are taken on by HAS Training and Consultancy. While these projects are being performed, the students are supervised to a professional standard by subject specialists. These advisers and lecturers are all characterised by their knowledge of the sector and a result-oriented approach.

## Characteristics of the professional assignment (PA)

- The professional assignment has to be of a high enough standard to give the student sufficient opportunity to learn and apply the correct level of theoretical and practical knowledge.
- The professional assignment does not always have to take place at the location of the host organisation. If this is necessary, there should be a working space for the student with the facilities they require.
- During the final assessment period, the student will work on their professional assignment for approx. 30 hours per week. The remaining time is required for other study commitments.
- During the professional assignment, the lecturing team will provide support.





# Are you interested in learning more?

## Offering an internship

You can contact the internship coordinator if you wish to offer an internship.

Your assignment will be assessed for its suitability and brought to the attention of the students. However, HAS University of Applied Sciences is unable to guarantee that there are interns available.

Maike Konings (internship coordinator)

T: +31 (0)88 890 3816

E: M.Konings@has.nl

## Offering a professional assignment

If you wish to offer a professional assignment, we will be pleased to visit you to discuss the options. We assess the level of the question and advise you on how the issue could be tackled.

HAS Training and Consultancy (HTC)

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A photograph of a man with blonde hair and sunglasses, wearing a white tank top with a blue wave graphic, looking up at a giraffe. The giraffe is leaning its head over the roof of a white SUV. The background shows a savanna landscape with green hills, a thatched roof structure, and flags of South Africa and the Netherlands.

# Password: Creative

*Because I want  
to shape the  
environment in  
which we live*

april 2019

**has**  
university  
of applied sciences