



جامعة محمد بن زايد
للذكاء الاصطناعي
Mohamed bin Zayed University
of Artificial Intelligence



Student Internship Guide

2025-2026



mbzuai.ac.ae

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POWER FROM KNOWLEDGE TO SERVE

About MBZUAI

The Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI) was established in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, with a clear mission to drive AI knowledge creation and development, foster economic and social growth, and position the UAE as a hub for the international AI community.

The University, in addition to its academic offerings, will have a direct and indirect impact on AI advancement in the UAE in multiple ways including, but not limited to:

- Attracting international talent (faculty, students, and research staff) and establishing Abu Dhabi as a global hub of AI innovation and excellence
- Creating an active AI community and engaging in AI research and publications
- Hosting global AI conferences that attract AI experts to the UAE and the region
- Supporting the development of AI technology and AI related startups
- Supporting governments and businesses by providing AI consulting services and AI solutions/ applications
- Conducting training and workshops in various AI fields for government entities and businesses

MBZUAI currently offers Ph.D. and M.Sc. programs in five AI specializations: machine learning (ML), computer vision (CV), natural language processing (NLP), robotics (ROB), and computer science (CS).

The University also offers M.Sc. programs in Statistics & Data Science and Applied Artificial Intelligence.

Vision, mission and strategic objectives

Vision

Drive excellence in knowledge creation, transfer and use of AI to foster economic growth and position Abu Dhabi as a hub for the international AI community.

Mission

Establish and continually evolve interdisciplinary, collaborative research and development capability in the field of AI, while educating students to be innovators and leaders with the breadth and depth to grow technology and enterprise in the UAE and globally.

Strategic objectives



As a unique institution, purpose built to lead the world in AI research, MBZUAI seeks to be a paradise for transformative research; a cradle for the best minds in computer science; and a hub for startups and high-tech innovation.

Its strategic objectives are:

- Attract the best talent focused on AI
- Develop, train, and retain talent for the UAE economy
- Lead Abu Dhabi's efforts to build and sustain an AI- based knowledge economy
- Develop real business applications in collaboration with industry and the public sector to enhance innovation, productivity, and growth
- Be the birthplace for high-tech innovation and AI startups in the UAE and the MENA region.





The internship is intended to provide you with hands-on experience, blending practical experiences with academic learning.

Important considerations for the MBZUAI internships

At least one (1) internship is mandatory for M.Sc. and Ph.D. students as a graduation requirement.

Conducted primarily during the summer months (mid-May – mid-August).

The internship should be in-person OR hybrid (x 3 days a week in the office and x 2 days remotely).

Length and focus

- For M.Sc. students, the internship should be six weeks in length and align with the working hours of your host organization. The internship does not have to directly align with your research at MBZUAI.
- M.Sc. internships are primarily conducted between mid-May to mid-August, the summer after the first year of the master's program. Priority is to MBZUAI commitments and research, therefore extension requests or requests which fall outside of the summer period have to go to an **appeal process**.
- This appeal shall be presented in writing to the Career Services & Internships team and include:
 - Dates of the internship extension or second internship
 - Written confirmation from the student that thesis research and timely graduation will not be affected
 - Written justification, **with detail**, from the student's MBZUAI Primary Supervisor, as to the approval of the appeal. (For example, aligns to MBZUAI research).
- MBZUAI financial support, during the internship extension or second internship (if the appeal is approved), **may** be affected if the internship is paid.
- For Ph.D. students, the internship should be three months in length. Hours should align with the working hours of your host organization.
- Ph.D internships are encouraged upon the completion of the second or third year of studies. The majority of PhD internships should be conducted between mid-May to mid-August. Internships outside of this period, shall be considered on a case-by-case basis and require internal approval.



Internship Procedure

If you have found your own internship:

Please book an appointment with the Career Services and Internships team who shall support with the internship process, including finalizing the details of the internship with the industry partner.

You should record this on the MBZUAI Student Career Portal by clicking on 'Internship' and entering the details of the industry partner using the 'Add New Internship' tab.

OR

Apply for an internship opportunity via the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal:

If you are successfully selected by the industry partner, you should then meet with your MBZUAI Supervisor to approve the internship.

Log into your account on the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal, select your specialism, and the internship learning outcomes will auto-populate the form for your program. The Career Services and Internships team will receive a notification via the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal to approve the internship.

You should also ensure to attend an Internship Orientation Session with the Career Services and Internships team prior to attending the internship, which shall be advertised to you. Your space at this workshop can be secured via the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal.

The intellectual property of any research undertaken during the dates of the internship shall be reviewed as per the MBZUAI IP Policy. Please advise the Career Services and Internships team if you are asked to sign any type of contract by the host organization.

During each week of the internship, you are asked to log into the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal to track your internship hours and submit your weekly tasks. These shall be reviewed and approved by the employer.

Finally, you will receive an evaluation form via the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal to complete at the end of the internship period.

You are able to request a record of all your internship experiences during your time at MBZUAI via the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal.

Student responsibilities

You should remember that you are representing MBZUAI during the internship period, as well as yourself. Once the internship has been completed, you will most likely request a reference from your Internship Supervisor. You are expected to be diligent, thorough, responsible, and professional with all assigned tasks.

You should adhere to the rules and regulations of the company where you are working during the period of the internship. Please also refer to the MBZUAI Student Code of Conduct Policy.

Confidentiality in the workplace must be observed at all times, including posts regarding the company on social media.

Non-attendance must be reported by you to the Internship Supervisor at the host organization. A sick leave form should be submitted to MBZUAI via e-forms on Sharepoint. Select 'Sick Leave from Internship' from the drop-down menu, upon which your MBZUAI Supervisor and the Career Services and Internships team shall be notified. You should discuss with the industry partner and MBZUAI Supervisor the possibility of extending the internship period (at the end of the internship), to make up for any time missed due to sick leave.

You should dress and behave in a professional manner, in accordance with the organization's dress code.

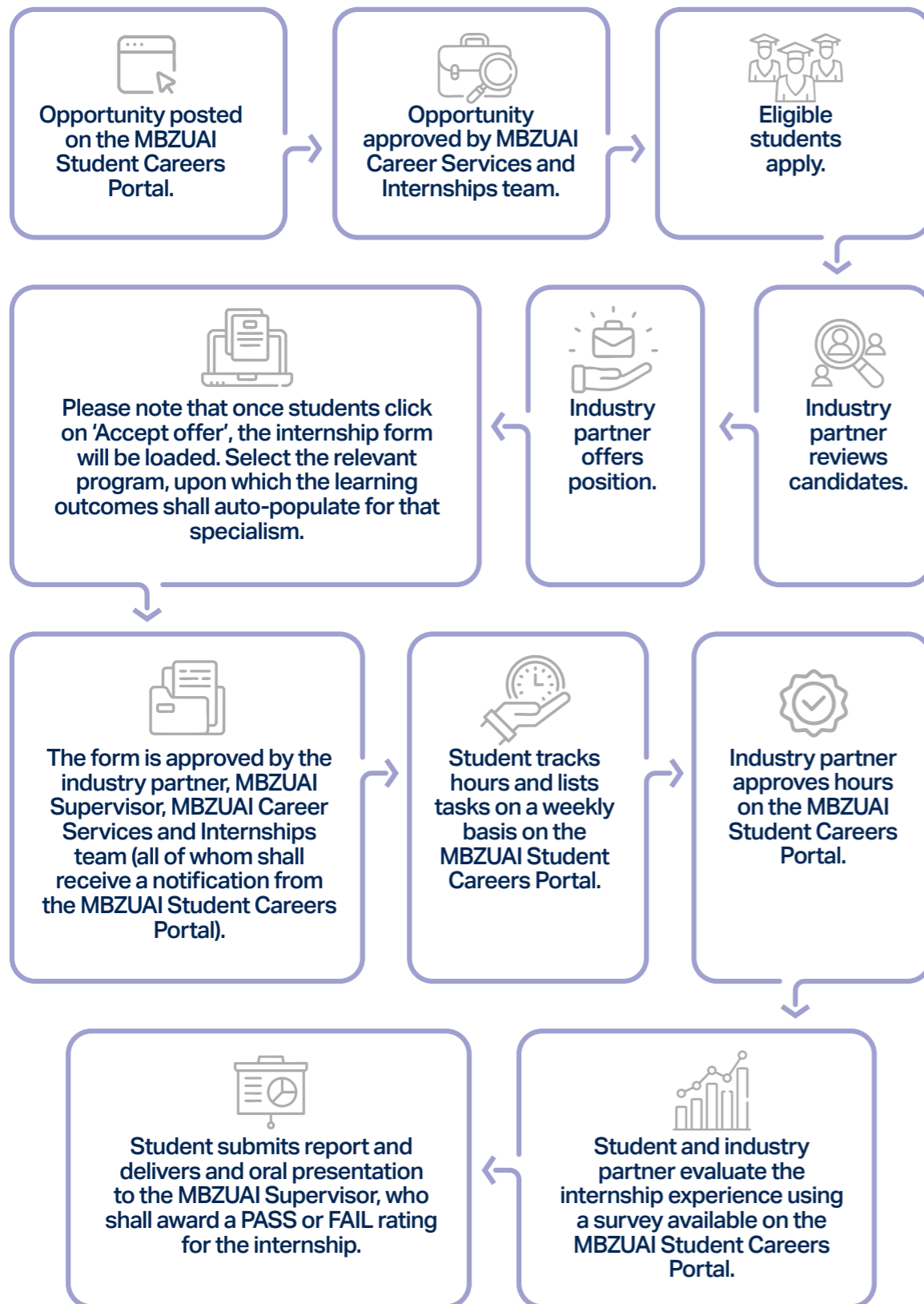
You should submit weekly hours and record weekly tasks on the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal.

To submit a report, update your résumé and deliver an oral presentation to your MBZUAI Supervisor as part of the MBZUAI internship evaluation.



Internship workflow

for internship found via the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal



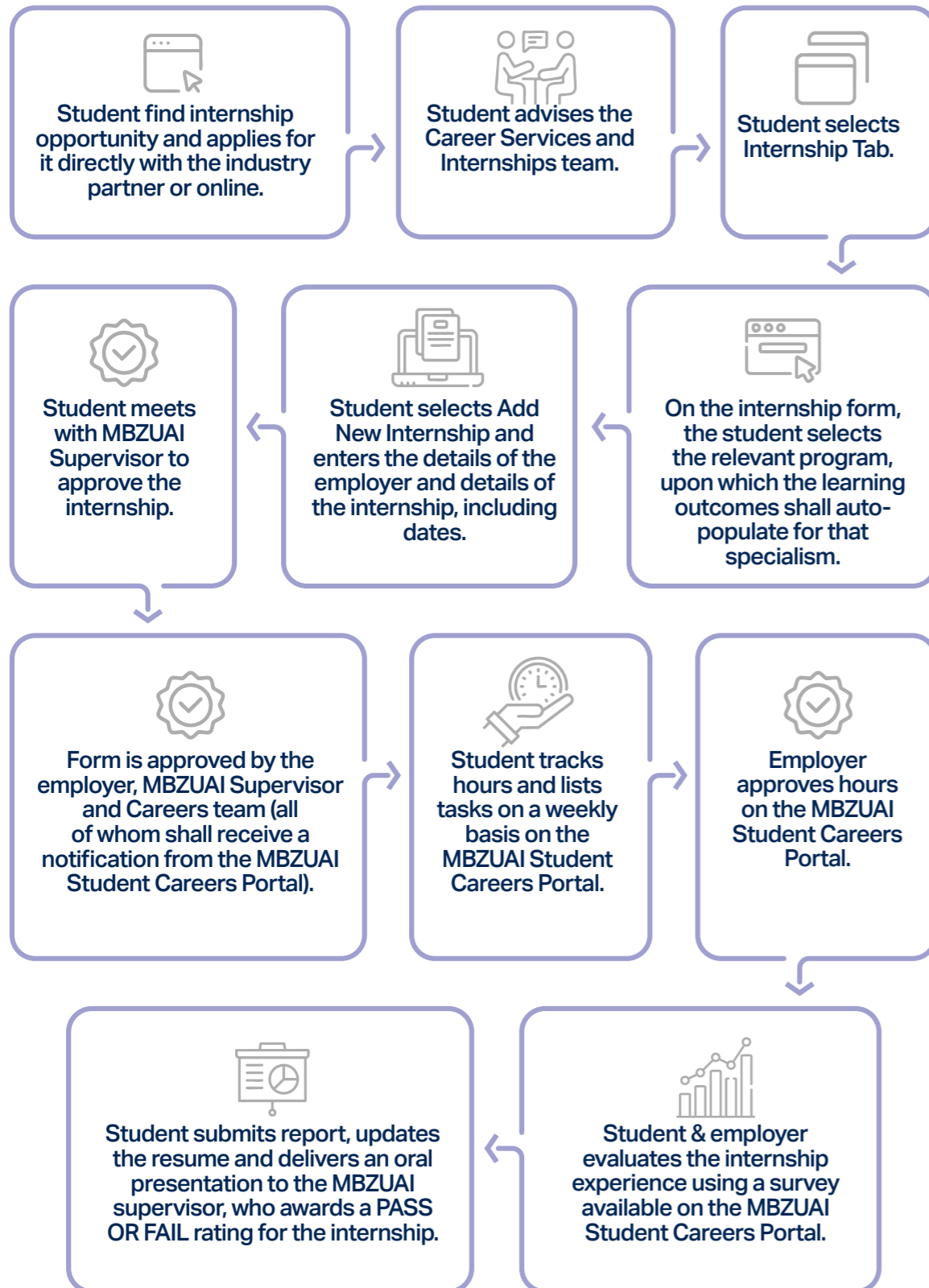
Contact: Careerservices@mbzuai.ac.ae



Empowering students
for employer engagement
and interviews

Internship workflow

for internship found independently (but the industry partner is not on the MBZUAI Student Careers Portal)



Contact: Careerservices@mbzuai.ac.ae

AI internships and careers provided through partnerships, fairs, and the MBZUAI Careers Portal





Student's course learning outcomes for the MBZUAI M.Sc. internship

- 
Interpersonal skills / work ethic
 Demonstrate ethical conduct in the workplace and life
- 
Business / professional skills
 Describe solutions and recommend strategies that meet the business needs of the host organization to improve and enhance business processes and operations.
- 
Technical skills
 Describe and apply technical skills in a wide range of professional settings.
- 
Professional development
 Reflect on professional development, both now and for the future.
- 
Collaboration and teamwork
 Function effectively in a team to create a collaborative environment.
- 
Communication
 Demonstrate effective verbal and written communication skills in a variety of work situations.
- 
Ability to learn
 Reflect, acquire and apply new knowledge.

Student's program specific learning outcomes for the MBZUAI M.Sc. internship

Specific learning objectives for machine learning

- Solve practical machine learning problems and articulate the solution in layman's language.
- Identify the impact of machine learning techniques on the domain of interest or human society.

Specific learning objectives for computer vision

- Demonstrate both theoretical and technical skills regarding state-of-the-art computer vision algorithms.
- Collaborate with stakeholders related to computer vision (either internal or external), along with sharing relevant findings.
- Apply critical thinking skills and present a computer vision research problem solution clearly and compellingly (in both verbal and written form).

Specific learning objectives for natural language processing

- Develop advanced skills in text processing.
- Critically analyze and evaluate various models for NLP.
- Apply statistical models to solve a practical text processing problem.

Specific learning objectives for robotics

- Identify practical problems connected to robotics in industry.
- Apply industrial experience to develop robotics solutions for practical problems.

Specific learning objectives for computer science

- Apply mathematical techniques and/or statistical methods in analyzing and improving algorithms.
- Exercise computational thinking toward the construction of a product/service.
- Collaborate with stakeholders in prototyping a product/service that meets user needs and expectations.

Specific Learning Outcomes Statistics and Data Science (master's)

- Analyze and apply datasets with supervised learning methods for functional approximation, classification, and forecasting and unsupervised learning methods for dimensionality reduction and clustering.
- Investigate research questions and designs by loading, extracting, transforming, and analyzing data from various sources

Specific Learning Outcomes Master in Applied Artificial Intelligence

- Apply industrial experience to develop artificial Intelligence solutions for practical problems.
- Identify opportunities to apply artificial intelligence to improve organizational processes.
- Critically evaluate societal, economic and human related impacts of artificial intelligence application.



Student's course learning outcomes for the MBZUAI Ph.D. internship



Analyze organizational business needs and recommend (ML, CV, NLP, Robotics, CS based) solutions to the host organization.



Implement (ML, CV, NLP, Robotics, CS based) solutions and improvements to the host organization.



Identify limitations, challenges and constraints of the host organization.



Apply (ML, CV, NLP, Robotics, CS) technical skills to solve complex organizational issues.

Student's program specific learning outcomes for the MBZUAI Ph.D. internship

Specific learning objectives for machine learning

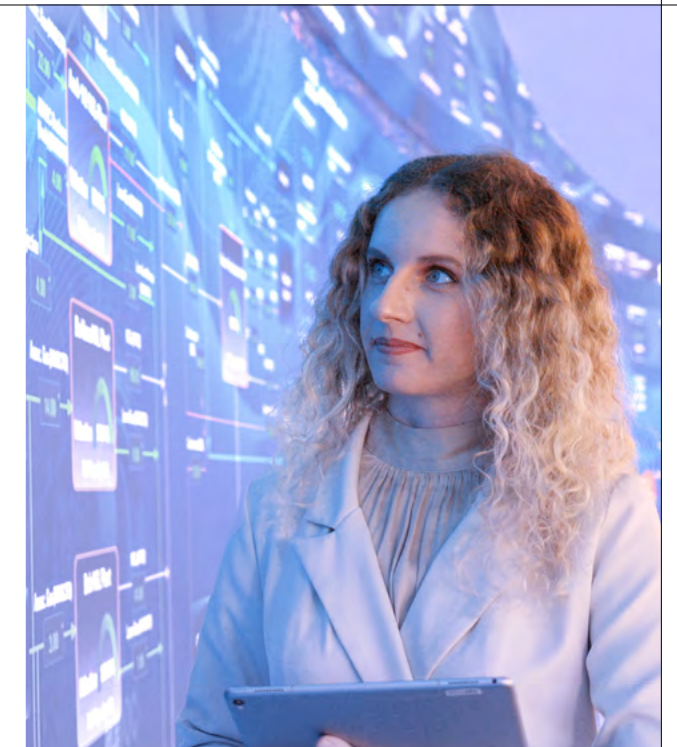
- Analyze practical machine learning problems and apply the proposed solution.
- Assess and reflect on the impact of machine learning techniques on domain of interest or human society.

Specific learning objectives for computer vision

- Apply research skills regarding state-of-the-art computer vision algorithms.
- Discuss and share relevant computer vision research findings with internal and external stakeholders.
- Reflect critically on computer vision research problems.
- Articulate and justify research findings in the research project.

Specific learning objectives for natural language processing

- Apply advanced skills in text processing.
- Apply various models for NLP findings in the research project.
- Generate solutions to a practical text processing problem in the research project.



Specific learning objectives for robotics

- Analyze practical challenges connected to robotics in industry.
- Formulate research findings to develop robotics solutions for practical problems.

Specific learning objectives for computer science

- Analyze and improve mathematical and/ or statistical algorithms.
- Apply computational thinking towards the construction of a product/service.
- Discuss with and justify research findings to stakeholders and prototype a product/service that meets user needs and expectations.

Student internship reflection report

Fill out the interactive fields below with your feedback

Give a brief description of your internship work (role / responsibilities / duties / projects / deadlines):

Was your internship experience related to your major area of study?

Yes No To some extent

How did your internship activities enable you to acquire the knowledge / understanding and skills to meet the learning outcomes (listed above)?

Were there any learning outcomes you identified that you were not able to accomplish adequately? If yes, please state why:

How did your studies and research at MBZUAI prepare you for the internship?

Student internship reflection report

Fill out the interactive fields below with your feedback

Did you identify any gaps between your studies and research at MBZUAI, and what was expected of you during the internship?

How was your work performance evaluated (meetings with supervisor / end of internship presentation / other)?

In what areas did you most develop and improve?

What has been the most significant accomplishment or satisfying moment of your internship?

Give suggestions as to how your internship experience could have been improved:

How has the internship prepared you for your future plans?

Extract or print pages 20 & 21 and send them to Careerservices@mbzuai.ac.ae

Internship oral feedback guidelines

Process:

- Time: 10-15 minutes (including questions and answers).
- The presentation / oral feedback usually takes place during the first month following the completion of the internship.
- You should demonstrate that you have submitted all components of your feedback, including:
 - Student self-reflection report.
 - Updated résumé (including the internship experience). This should be placed at the top of the Experience section of the résumé, due to the most recent experiences being listed first. It should mention the name of the company, date duration, and have related bullet points, summarizing the main responsibilities of the internship experience.
- The MBZUAI Supervisor will inform you of the time and place of the presentation / oral feedback.
- Please refer to the Internship Learning Outcomes and the form below to help you prepare.

Name of host organization:

Name of MBZUAI Supervisor:

CONTENT

Student adequately summarizes all key items included in the Employer Evaluation Form:

- Collaboration and teamwork.
- Communication.
- Interpersonal skills.
- Work ethic.
- Ability to learn.
- Professional/Business skills.
- AI technical skills.

MBZUAI Supervisor's comments:

DELIVERY

- Body language.
- Speed of delivery/volume.
- Ability to communicate effectively and clearly.
- Ability to use appropriate formal and professional language.
- Presentation visuals (if applicable) are appealing, relevant and of a high standard.
- Presentation visuals (if applicable) are incorporated into the oral feedback at appropriate points of the discussion.

MBZUAI Supervisor's comments:



POTENTIAL QUESTIONS YOU MAY BE ASKED

- Would you recommend this internship/organization to other students?
- Would you like to work in this organization or a similar type of organization when you graduate?
- How do you believe you contributed most effectively to your host organization?
- Give an example that analyzes the importance and challenges or working in a team during your internship.
- Describe how you set your priorities each day.
- Discuss an issue you faced during the internship and how you handled it yourself. Or did you need advice or help? (Consider professional, ethical, health, safety and environmental issues).
- Explain the use of AI in relation to your internship. What tasks was it applied to? Were you familiar with it or did you need to learn new technologies/ systems?
- Compare the skills you have learnt so far at MBZUAI with the skills needed to succeed in the workplace.
- Evaluate the competencies and skills you still need to develop.
- How has your internship experience affected your future career plans?

MBZUAI Supervisor's

Blank area for MBZUAI Supervisor's comments.



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Published by:

**Mohamed bin Zayed University
of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI)**

Masdar City
Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates

mbzuai.ac.ae



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