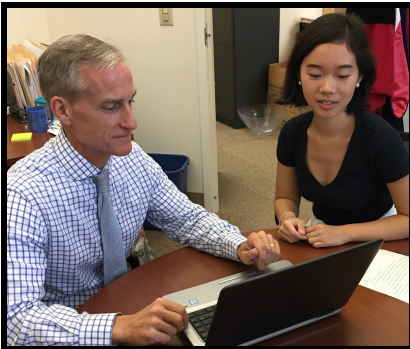


Summer Internship Report 2017

Christine Xu, C'18

Hometown: Beijing, China



**Research Assistantship: Politics
Sewanee, Tennessee**

Provide an overview of the organization/research project and a summary of your responsibilities, tasks, and/or projects.

I was working with Dr. Scott Wilson of the Politics Department.

During your internship, what did you accomplish or how did you make a difference? In what ways did you grow in your professional and technical skills?

During my internship I was for the first time exposed to social science type of research as well as the legal aspect of politics. As an aspiring law student, I was very happy!

Describe a problem that you helped to solve at your internship. What skills or knowledge from your education at Sewanee helped you address the problem?

Skills from Sewanee education were extremely helpful since a lot of my work looked similar to school work. I analyzed maps and read papers and wrote abstracts.

In what way were your teamwork skills strengthened?

I worked with another student, Wint. Although we were doing different tasks most of the time, we enjoyed working together (at the same location), and this internship has definitely built our friendship!

How did your internship affect your career plans?

It strengthened my conviction that I am not overly interested in research as a career field, but this entirely new area of work opened up new possibilities!

In what ways did your internship cause you to encounter people of different backgrounds from your own? What steps did you take to communicate effectively with such persons? What did you learn from such persons' perspectives?

The work I did was mostly solitary, but I exchanged ideas with Wint and we helped each other out. The topic is very China-centered and having her input in the Chinese politics and legal system is interesting.

Words of thanks to your internship funding donors:

I would like to thank the generous donors for this wonderful opportunity. This is my second time doing research and I enjoyed it greatly, and learned a lot as well! I hope one day I can give back in some way!