

Green Chemistry Internship

Do you want to learn more about sustainable alternatives to conventional chemicals used everyday in our society? The Sustainable Agriculture Project at GVSU offers rewarding internships that expose students to practical, hands-on knowledge while encouraging creativity.

Position Summary:

The Green Chemistry Intern will learn to experiment with biomaterials and chemical synthesis to assist the SAP in its goal of overall sustainability. The successful applicant will research various green options for fertilizer and pest management, with a focus on ecologically durable, socially responsible, and economically viable alternatives to conventional applications.

Qualifications:

- → Commitment to fully utilize the internship as a learning experience
- → Interest in learning about food systems and sustainable practices
- → Tolerant of working outside in all weather conditions
- → Previous agricultural and chemistry experience is useful, but not required
- → All majors are welcome to apply, though preference will be given to biochemistry and chemistry majors

Special Project Opportunity:

Interns will have the opportunity to pursue independent research projects to enrich their academic experience, such as:

- Developing a yield-maximizing nutritional foliar spray, or other bio-mimicking, beneficial applications
- Conducting farm soil quality analyses and input recommendations
- Researching green alternatives to manage insects and plants
- Other projects are possible depending upon the intern's interests

Interns Will Learn to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of green chemistry as part of sustainable food systems
- Describe the importance of agriculture in the economy
- Recognize systems thinking and/or design thinking in processes
- Follow all appropriate food safety procedures
- Analyze the strengths and limitations of small-scale farming
- Apply appropriate tools and technology for sustainable agriculture

Note: This is a for-credit, unpaid internship opportunity.