ACLU of Massachusetts | www.aclum.org

- Katie Matejcak (Political Science, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 2016)
- Public Advocacy Intern
- Part-time, 20-25 hours per week
- Unpaid

What do you do as an intern at this organization?
Most of what I do is research, which varies from investigating problematic laws/practices in towns across the state to drafting legislative memos. I've also spent a lot of time editing reports. There are occasionally some more mundane tasks, like compiling hundreds of individual complaints into a larger report, but even those can be interesting.

How did you find your internship?
They didn't have any undergraduate internships listed on their website, so I emailed the director of Public Advocacy early on, told her about my interests, and asked about internship opportunities.

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
I'm learning so much! This is the first internship I've had where I feel like I'm benefiting just as much from the experience as the organization does from my work.

What do you find challenging?
Everyone who works at the ACLU is extremely smart and well-informed, which can be intimidating. They assume a high level of prior knowledge.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
Email the organization early (I contacted my boss for the first time over winter break) to see if there's any work available. Be sure to keep up with local news.

About the Organization
ACLU of Massachusetts
Boston, MA

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is the nation’s guardian of liberty. A private, voluntary, nonpartisan organization, it works daily in the courts, in legislatures, and in communities to defend and preserve our country’s basic civic values—the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to all by the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The ACLU of Massachusetts, with over 20,000 supporters across the Commonwealth, is a state affiliate of the national ACLU. We defend the principles enshrined in the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights as well as the U.S. Constitution.