
- Mario Gomez-Hall (Engineering Psychology, 2015)
- User-Experience Program Manager
- Full-time, 35-50 hours per week
- Paid

**What do you do as an intern at this organization?**
I'm tasked with a few problems and get to own "features" that solve these problems -- fairly small parts of a huge product like Windows or Xbox or Office -- and have to figure out who to meet with, what research to do, what testing to do, design a solution, explain my design with evidence, and present it to management. I'm mainly in meetings, drawing on whiteboards, or creatively thinking about how to tackle problems. I create mockups, though I am fairly unique as a UX-focused PM rather than just a traditional PM or a technical PM. Finally, I write a document outlining my suggested feature/solution so that a developer can create that feature in code.

**How did you find your internship?**
This was my second internship at Microsoft, but I originally found my internship through a Microsoft information session hosted by the Career Center.

**What do you enjoy most about your internship?**
I love getting to tackle complicated problems in a totally open manner. You really get to own something and it becomes your baby. That, and the fact that Microsoft is a very laid back company that encourages you to have fun and leave work at a reasonable hour, and their perks and benefits make your spare time even more fun.

**What do you find challenging?**
The same thing that I enjoyed most: the lack of concrete to-do lists. It was a tough adjustment period initially, as there is no rubric to base your work off of, but I grew to love that.

**What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?**
Apply online! Work hard in your spare time building things and gaining the type of experience that would be useful in a software development-type job like this. I don't do any programming (though some PMs do), but having experience building something, whether it's the design of an app or managing a project, will be critical to getting an internship like this.

**About the Organization**
Microsoft
Redmond, WA

Calling all creators, hackers, artists and thinkers. If you are ready to ask the big questions, to work to make technology better, let’s make it happen together.