The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) is a research center, based at the University of Maryland, committed to the scientific study of the causes and human consequences of terrorism in the United States and around the world as well as related topics. START experts apply a range of research methods to the exploration of these questions in order to deliver findings based on the best available open-source evidence and data. At the heart of START’s work are the principles that the research it is conducting must be both scientifically rigorous and directly relevant to homeland security professionals. START is a Center of Excellence supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and also receives funding and support from a variety of Federal agencies, private foundations, and universities.

Why choose an internship at START?

- Experience working with a large team of dynamic and experienced researchers.
- Exposure to cutting edge theories and methods.
- Deepen your understanding of current issues in terrorism and homeland security.
- Work on projects of immediate interest to the practitioner and policy community.
- Hone and develop a range of transferable skills attractive to future employers.
- Opportunity to work with and meet other students and researchers with similar interests.
- Enrichment activities offering wide opportunities for learning and personal growth.
- Mentorship from START staff and researchers in a successful professional environment.
- Internships can be undertaken for academic credit.

General requirements

Applicants for all internships must:

- Have a good academic record.
- Demonstrate an interest in the subject matter.
- Be able to complete their internship work hours at the location listed in the description.
- Agree to attend orientation and training.
- Submit an application by the deadline, all application packets must include:
  - A complete application for the correct semester,
  - One page resume,
  - Cover letter,
  - Writing sample,
  - Unofficial transcripts.

Each project may have additional requirements, including minimum credit hours, preferred majors and compulsory meeting times. For specific requirements and information visit: www.start.umd.edu.

See reverse for list of Spring 2015 internships
Global Terrorism Database (GTD)
The GTD is an open source, unclassified database including information on terrorist attacks around the world since 1970 (currently updated through 2013). The database is maintained by researchers at START. The GTD includes systematic data on domestic as well as international terrorist incidents that have occurred during this time period and now includes over 113,000 cases. The GTD intern team is organized into the following themes:

- Incident Location and Geographic Identification
- Perpetrator Identification
- Target Classification
- Understanding the Patterns and Use of Weapons and Tactics
- The Consequences of Terrorism - Casualties and Outcomes
- The Motives of Terrorism
- Coding Intern At Large (Generalist)

Unconventional Weapons and Technology
The Unconventional Weapons and Technology program consists of a number of intensive, shorter-term research projects concentrated on research topics within the larger study of terrorism and politically violent non-state actors. Intern positions are available in the following focus areas:

- General CBRN Terrorism & Advanced Research
- Terrorist Ideology
- Open Source Intelligence on Organized Crime
- Understanding Domestic Radicalization
- Risk Assessment and Threat Analysis
- CBRN Database Coder
- Individual Radicalization of Bioscientists
- Global Nuclear Detection and Security
- Nuclear Security and Smuggling

Naval Research Laboratory Adversarial Modeling and Exploitation Office
The AMX has a number of ongoing research projects related to counter-terrorism, behavior detection, law enforcement, crime analysis, and geospatial analysis. The use of information by law enforcement, often called data driven policing, is an ever evolving and expanding field.

Risk Communication & Community Resilience Team
Government, non-profits, and other organizations rely on public communication to deliver important messages to various audiences. Professional communicators today use social scientific research to improve this process, and START’s research teams have several current and upcoming communication projects that address current research questions. Risk communication is important for delivering messages about impending storms, terrorist attacks, public health crises, and more. Interns working on this team will support several ongoing research projects as well as new projects.

State Department Terrorist Organizations Project
Projects will include collecting the number and type of attacks over time, looking at trends, and possibly even modeling group capacity out into the future. Interns will also provide assistance in researching open source information on the leadership of some groups for possible future designations.

Geographical Information Systems
The GIS team currently has opportunities for interns with previous GIS experience or coursework to work alongside our researchers on various projects with a GIS component.

Propaganda Analysis
This project involves the analysis of several hundred transcripts of terrorist propaganda videos produced by Al Qaeda and Al Qaeda affiliate groups.

Dataverse
Interns for this project will learn about terrorism-related data through archiving datasets and reading over documentation. Interns will serve as Assistant Editors and would be responsible for preparing data for archiving onto the START Dataverse.

Government Actions in Terror Environments (GATE)
While policymakers increasingly recognize the importance of non-military counterterrorism tools in addition to military ones, it is not yet known which type of government actions are effective; and when carrots might be more effective than sticks in defeating terrorist groups. Interns working on this team will gain a better understand the terrorist conflict in the US and across specific regions of the world.

Communications Team
START communications and transition team is seeking interns to assist with START’s communication activities and products. Interns’, responsibilities will vary but may include: Writing and editing press releases and featured stories, planning and attending events, creating media kits, developing and tracking media lists and monitoring social media.

Strategic Military Assessment Research and Transition (SMART) Projects
SMART projects focus on the relationships of violent non-state actors (terrorist, pirates, etc) and state authorities to analyze their patterns of interaction and strategies of violence. Our regional focus this semester is two-fold: Nigeria, as well as the East China Sea and Indian Ocean regions. The SMART internship is designed to help train its participants in team research design and write-up techniques. Interns, by the conclusion of the internship, will have invaluable experience with data cleaning, data visualization, basic statistical coding cloud-based file sharing, copy-editing and the preparation of articles for academic publication.

Cross-National Analysis of Values in the Middle East
Prospective students will be introduced to the values surveys carried out in the Middle East in recent years, focusing on cross-national and individual variation in values from extremism to liberalism.

How to apply
Priority Deadline: Midnight Sunday 10/26
Final Deadline: Midnight Sunday 11/09
Applicants must submit an application through the online application system Go to www.start.umd.edu/careers/ to apply.