



Name: Shaye Worthman

Josef Korbel School Degree Program: MA, [International Development](#), 2012

Undergraduate Institution/Major: Xavier University; BS Psychology, BA Spanish

Tell us about yourself:

I am originally from a small town outside of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. As a psychology major at Xavier University I became very interested in research, co-authoring four publications with social psychologist Dr. Christian End. However, I was also intrigued by Latin American history and its development, specifically Mexico where I had studied abroad. I ended up adding Spanish as a second major and minoring in Latin American Studies. After interning my senior year for Cooperative for Education, a Cincinnati-based non-profit focused on educational development in rural Guatemala, I knew I wanted to apply my research skills in the international development field. I then spent a year teaching English in Mexico and taking my Spanish proficiency to the next level before coming to the Josef Korbel School.

What brought you to the Josef Korbel School?

The interdisciplinary nature of the Josef Korbel School's International Development program appealed to me. I felt it was a good mix of theoretically based courses coupled with the opportunity to take more practical courses, such as Statistics, Project Management, Project Analysis, Project Evaluation, and Econometrics. I also appreciated how the merit-based scholarships were [clearly laid out](#) according to GPA and GRE scores so I could know a head of time how it was structured and if I would qualify. This was actually a huge factor in deciding to apply. Also, [Dr. Lynn Holland's](#) Latin American-focused classes are great. Political Economic Development in Latin America is a must for anyone interested in the region!

Internship Site: [BoldLeaders Project](#)

How did you obtain your Internship?

I found out about their opening for a Monitoring and Evaluation Intern through the [Office of Career and Professional Development](#).

Intern Title: Monitoring and Evaluation Intern

Main Responsibilities:

My first (and continuing) internship is with the BoldLeaders Project, which focuses on leadership education for high school students throughout the world and most recently in Africa. The internship is very project-based; I helped them to revamp some of their surveys and compile and analyze all of their past results into a comprehensive short-term results report. I have also analyzed survey data after each of their programs in the past year and I participated in a program in Denver last November and December with students from Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Tanzania. Most recently my focus has been on launching a data collection project to evaluate the long-term impacts of the BoldLeaders programs.

What's the most important lesson you learned during your internship?

This internship has been valuable in terms of learning how to be innovative with what I am given. For example, the project of compiling past results was daunting at first; there was really no continuity in the results, nor were they easy to understand across programs. I was able to come up with a way to better categorize, combine, and present major results to make them more accessible to the reader. The completed document can be seen [here](#) under "Our Results."

How did the Josef Korbel School prepare you for your internship?

I applied for this internship at the very beginning of my first quarter, so my research skills from undergrad got me the job. However, taking Statistics at Korbel helped to confirm some of what I was doing, though when you actually do evaluation and data analysis you learn that it's far from an exact science and you have to make your own decisions about what you're going to do with the data.

Abroad Internship Organization: [el Instituto Mexicano de Investigación de Familia y Población](#) (Mexican Institute of Family and Population Research; IMIFAP)

Intern Title: Research and Evaluation Intern

How did you obtain your Internship?

I learned of the organization through an APSIA [[Association of Professional Schools in International Affairs](#)] report that was on the Korbel Career website [internal database for current students and alums] and found out about internships through the organization's website. Along with a cover letter and resume, I had to provide writing samples in both English and Spanish in my application.

Main Responsibilities:

As a Research and Evaluation Intern, one of my main responsibilities was to provide administrative and evaluation support to the project coordinator of a national maternal and infant health initiative in partnership with the Mexican government. I also evaluated other projects by performing quantitative data analyses in SAS (e.g., t-tests, chi-squares, ANOVAs).

How did the Josef Korbel School prepare you for your internship?

Statistics III really prepared me for this internship. I literally had my notes out while I was doing the chi-squares and ANOVAs. I wasn't expected to do this level of analysis when I started; in fact I was almost exclusively doing qualitative analysis. However, about half way through the 10-week internship I asked if there was any quantitative analysis I could do, and when my supervisor and the evaluation coordinator found out I had SAS on my computer and that I was capable of doing higher-level analyses, they immediately gave me more and more projects. It was rewarding to apply what I learned in class to actual data and I felt like I was contributing to the organization in a meaningful way.

What are your career goals?

I would ideally like to continue in the monitoring and evaluation side of development, specifically in Latin America. With an increasing demand for rigorous evaluation in the field, I hope that my experiences will give me an edge in the job market.

**--Sarah Crozier, MA Candidate in International Development
Josef Korbel School of International Studies**