

VERITÉ

Fair Labor. **Worldwide.**

Research Intern

About Verité:

Verité is an Amherst-based nonprofit and award-winning pioneer in the social auditing, training, research, and consulting field. The organization has over 20 years of experience working with Fortune 500 corporations and their local suppliers through our global network of NGO partners. Verité works in over 70 countries to empower companies, factories, NGOs, governments, and workers to create sustainable workplace practices in the factories and communities where our consumer goods are made and the raw materials that go into them are sourced. For more information, please visit <https://www.verite.org>.

Internship:

Verité interns work on a variety of research projects addressing forced labor, human trafficking, and human rights abuses worldwide. Interns will perform desk research, various administrative tasks, draft reports, and proofread texts. Research interns will read and analyze reports published by the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the International Labour Organization (ILO) and become familiar with the work of these entities as well as the work of many different stakeholders. Interns will support our work with brands and our large-scale federally-funded research projects by conducting desk research on and analyzing supply chains, sectors, and commodities. Interns may assist on a number of Verité projects and are not limited to only the projects detailed below.

Start date: Negotiable; beginning of Spring semester

End date: Negotiable; end of Spring semester

Interns are expected to work 8-10 hours per week during the semester for at least 10-12 weeks. All internships are on-site; we do not accept interns working remotely.

Verité offers interns a modest stipend in the amount of \$250 for the duration of the Spring session to offset any cost of living expenses. If your school also provides either funding or academic credits for intern work, Verité is happy to assist with the required paperwork. We also provide opportunities to interact with senior research staff, mentoring, networking assistance, and references upon successful completion of the internship.

Skills, abilities, and competencies:

- Ability to find, evaluate, analyze, and summarize a wide range of complex source materials
- Ability to meet deadlines, prioritize assigned tasks, and work independently, all with an attention to detail
- Excellent writing skills
- Proactive approach to assignments
- Previous knowledge of (or interest in/willingness to learn quickly) issues related to countries and regions of focus, relevant regulatory frameworks, human trafficking, and/or corporate responsibility efforts
- Familiarity with organizing datasets a plus
- Reading fluency/competency in any of the following languages a plus: Arabic, Bahasa, Bengali, Burmese, Chinese, Filipino, French, Hindi, Khmer, Korean, Mandarin, Nepalese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Tamil, Thai, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese
- Demonstrates professional competency and/or personal experience thinking and working effectively across boundaries*
- Demonstrates sensitivity and competency engaging with the diverse marginalized populations impacted by Verité's mission

*These include, but are not limited to: gender, race, religion, age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy status, nationality, class, political opinion, union affiliation, or social or ethnic origin.

Verité is committed to a diverse work force and is an Equal Opportunity Employer that does not discriminate against any employee, intern, or applicant for employment or internship on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, class, religion, veteran status, ability, and any other federal, state, or locally protected classes.

How to Apply:

Please provide cover letter, resume, and academic writing sample of 3-5 pages to verite@verite.org. For multilingual applicants, please provide a writing sample in each language. Use subject line: "Verité Research Internship – Spring 2019." If you have an interest in one of the specific projects outlined below please address it in your cover letter. Any questions can be directed to Yamila Irizarry-Gerould at verite@verite.org.

Projects

- **Partnership for Slavery-Free Supply Chains:** Millions of victims of forced labor are connected to multinational corporations, whose labor supply chains are hidden behind multiple layers of third-party intermediaries known as "labor brokers," who recruit, hire and manage migrant workers on behalf of supplier factories and farms. A key root cause of the modern day slavery of migrant workers is lack of visibility and understanding by multinational companies and their suppliers of the recruitment practices experienced by these migrants. Companies also lack effective screening and oversight mechanisms to monitor the activities of these labor brokers, in both the countries of origin and destination of migrant workers. Multinational companies are struggling to perform effective monitoring and verification of good labor practice in an environment of long and complex supply chains that involve dozens if not hundreds or thousands of suppliers and brokers. New approaches are needed.

Verité is currently working on a philanthropically-funded pilot project to create a labor broker risk screening tool that will enable companies to unravel complex labor supply chains and identify risks of human trafficking and forced labor within them. The initial stage of the pilot is focusing on electronics production in Southeast Asia. Verité is piloting original research on labor brokers and their practices in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. This data will be integrated with corporate supply chain data, analyzed, and visualized on a data analytics platform to give an unprecedented look at the source of forced labor risk in this sector and region. Intern tasks include:

- Performing targeted desk research in English, and local languages if possible, to develop profiles for a set of labor brokers and their practices in each country of focus, using a wide variety of sources including academic, corporate, business, NGO, media and government reports
 - Organize findings using reporting templates and assist lead researchers in inputting the gathered information into a database
 - For individuals with fluency in any of the above languages, they might provide translation assistance for documents, correspondence, and research tools.
- **Migration Corridors to the Gulf:** Two projects promote safe and fair labor migration to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states using a multi-stakeholder strategic approach to build civil society, government and private sector capacities in both sending and receiving countries to promote safe and fair migration. Projects focus on migrants coming from [India](#) and [Kenya](#) migrating for work in Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. Our goal is to establish a robust, comprehensive framework protecting migrant workers at every stage of the migration process, from recruitment and deployment to employment and safe return. Interests in the regions (India, Africa, GCC or MENA), and/or migrants rights, and/or developing technology such as mobile apps and interactive websites for migrant workers are a plus. Intern tasks include:
 - Desk research on legal frameworks in the countries sending and receiving migrant workers as well as on the technology available to migrant workers

- **Responsible Sourcing Tool:** In 2016, Verité launched the [Responsible Sourcing Tool \(RST\)](#), providing a resource to federal contractors to meet the anti-trafficking compliance measures in the Federal Acquisition Regulation. In addition to federal contractors, the interactive website helps companies, advocates, and consumers detect, prevent, and combat trafficking in global supply chains and meet the growing number of legal, regulatory, and market demands for attention to severe exploitation in global supply chains. The website currently contains extensive research on 11 key sectors and 43 commodities at risk for trafficking or trafficking-related activities, ten comprehensive risk management tools, case studies, and links to guidance from other expert organizations. Intern tasks include:
 - Desk research and media scans on specific commodities and sectors
 - Report drafting
 - Data-related work (trade and export data, organizing data in certain platforms)

- **Forestry Project:** Verité is exploring the connection between forestry-linked environmental degradation and labor abuses in order to raise awareness of the relationship amongst a broad range of stakeholders by carrying out a comparative research project in three regions currently being affected by high levels of logging and deforestation. Though the connection between environmental degradation and people’s vulnerability to labor abuses has become increasingly accepted, detailed research exploring the nature and mechanisms of the connection has yet to be carried out, clear intervention points for specific industries have not been identified, and the potential for leveraging environmental interventions to promote and enhance labor protection is largely untested. Intern tasks include:
 - In-depth desk research and gathering of up-to-date primary data on topics including forestry, conflict, labor rights, environmental degradation, and forest-related livelihoods using a provided desk research template,
 - Collating, editing, and citing relevant data
 - Collecting contact information for relevant stakeholders

- **China Worker Well-being Project:** This program is designed to change how workers are taught the key compliance subjects (focusing on labor rights and health and safety) in China’s vocational schools, with a direct link to on-going training and empowerment mechanisms in their post-school workplace life. Interns would work in cooperation with the Grant Program Manager based in China, the China office Director, and other Verité staff. Intern tasks include:
 - Perform targeted desk research and data/information/material collection in English and Chinese
 - Conduct preliminary/basic analysis of survey and evaluation results
 - Provide translation assistance for documents, correspondence and tools as (between English and Chinese)
 - Assist Program Manager in organizing and inputting the gathered information into a database
 - Assist in drafting and formatting of communication leaflets/reports/training materials/surveys
 - Other tasks as required by Program Manager and China Director