SIS students are gaining valuable work experience in summer internships abroad and in the US.

Tina Chiang ’18, was chosen to work at the US Embassy in Kuala Lumpur - US Commercial Service Malaysia as a volunteer intern with SIS Board member, Alum, and Commercial Officer, Paul Oliva. The internship involves major initiatives on defense and tourism. Among other things, Tina is working on a guide for Muslim visitors to the US. She also helps the commercial sector of the Embassy gather and fact-check data used to guide business activity.

Kaya Dantzler ’16 (holding plaque, and with Courtney Bye, COP Economics), is working as an intern at Nathan Associates, a Washington, DC area economic consulting firm that is heavily engaged in international economic development work. She does country-specific research that supports projects related to business development. This work has piqued her interest in the transportation logistics underlying international trade. During the 2014/15 academic year, Kaya studied abroad in Ghana. She is completing a double major in Development and Cultural Change and Economics.

Associate Professor, Analiese Richard provided Pacific students with an opportunity for summer internships teaching English in Mexico. SIS students Ashlee Frandell ’15, Amy
Wyckoff ’15, Laurel Klafehn’16, Will Matthews ’16, and Shani Boyd ’17 were selected for the internship and are working for an NGO, Desarrollo Rural de Hidalgo (Rural Development of Hidalgo - DERHGO) as volunteer English teachers/tutors for development projects. They are based in Tulancingo, Hidalgo which is about 2 hours outside Mexico City. The project has support from the municipal government.

Vanessa Fuentes ‘16, was selected by the California Chamber of Commerce for an international business internship. She is assisting in the updating of the Cal Chamber’s international website, as well as, working with the International Affairs department on a variety of projects.

Kaylee Webster’18, is interning with the CalAsian Chamber of Commerce, the largest statewide ethnic chamber in California, with the mission to grow and empower the API business community throughout California. Kaylee has been researching and preparing a white paper on IC-DISC (a tax break for small-medium sized companies). Her research will make her the in-house expert on this particular tax break! Later in the summer, Kaylee will be conducting some econometric data analysis.
Joe Butler '16, landed an internship as a research assistant in Security Studies at University of Central Florida's Department of Political Science, the program is part of “Preparing Future Researchers.” His work entails using data from the French government's list of resistance fighters to examine participation in armed insurgency. The title of Joe's forthcoming paper is "Individual Participation in Insurgency: The Case of the French Resistance."

In addition to conducting research and writing papers, the program offers seminars and workshops on preparation for graduate school; building a good resume; networking; applying for external funding and grants; developing research proposals; writing personal statements; and finding the right graduate school.