

Sarah Cravens

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I am currently an intern in the London office of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, working exclusively for the international arbitration practice group.

WilmerHale hosts about 15 interns at a time on a year-round basis, and out of the current group I am one of only two people from the United States. Others come from Germany, Lebanon, Colombia, India, and many other places. The office as a whole is also incredibly diverse, which reflects the international nature of the practice. But even though people are from so many different places and speak so many different first languages, I've constantly been amazed at how well everyone communicates and gets along. Among the interns there is an amazing spirit of unity and camaraderie, and after work we often continue to spend time together at local pubs.

This experience will definitely end up being one of the highlights of law school. Something I've enjoyed most besides the great relationships I have with other interns is the high intensity of the work environment. Hardly ever have I been able to experience such a consistent level of dedication and performance from everyone that I work with. Associates and partners trust the work that interns do and expect good quality from the start. This kind of intensity also means long work hours, which was a challenge at first but soon became easier after I adjusted.

Because WilmerHale is such an important player in the arbitration world, the cases that come through the doors are almost always incredibly large-scale and complex. The disputes are either between companies (often in the energy sector) or between investors and the countries where they've invested money. I have worked on projects (mostly research-related) for several different cases, but I have also done quite a bit of work on books and articles that partners in the firm are in the process of publishing. My tasks for publications have included everything from substantive research to fact checking, formatting citations, proofreading, and even drafting new material.

London is also an amazing city to live in and explore. The cost of living is fairly high, but the opportunities are almost endless. There is way more to do and discover than is possible in just three months, but I've been taking advantage of every opportunity to see some of the sights both here and in nearby countries.

With only three weeks left, I can say that really my only complaint is that the whole thing passed by so quickly! I would highly recommend this internship to anyone.