Between The View and Denny’s in College Park, MD
START

• Established in 2005 as a U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence
• Part of a consortium of 50 other institutions
• Improves the understanding of the origins, dynamics and impacts of terrorism
• Small office of 51-200 researchers, and ~50 interns with varying schedules
• Created Global Terrorism Minor
• Projects for interns include:
  – Geographic Information Systems (General or Advanced skills),
  – Unconventional Weapons and Technology,
  – Developing Technology in Explosive Detection Dogs,
  – START/Department of State,
  – Contributing to the Global Terrorism Database
Internship Duties

• Qualitative and quantitative research
• Digital cartography on ArcMap
• Analyze ISIS foreign fighter networks
• Identify illegal border crossing strategies
• Attend weekly meetings
• Design and implement own research project
Who Should Apply?

• Any major
• Completion of one college-level GIS class
• Interest in terrorism and/or geography is a plus
How to Prepare

• Take one college-level GIS class (GEOG373)
  – The more the better!
• Strong academic record
• Leadership in any organization
• Previous GIS internship *not* required
• Read news articles about terrorist activities
• GIS tutorials:
  – Lynda Training through UMD
  – Harvard GIS
“More Employable?”

• Increased interpersonal communication skills
• Gained experience with “big data” and statistical analysis
• Developed proficiency in Excel and ArcGIS software
• Attained open-source research strategies and skills
Internships

START offers unpaid internships year round on a variety of research projects and teams. During the course of their internship, participants are exposed to the most up-to-date theories, methods and information related to the study of terrorism. They are versed in the critical questions tackled by homeland security practitioners, policy makers and researchers, and are mentored in a professional environment geared toward student success. The program is designed to prepare the next generation of homeland security scholars and practitioners through real-world research experience.

START’s internship program is open to undergraduate and graduate students (as well as some recent graduates) in any related discipline from any institution. Each internship lasts for one term. Participants work at least 10 hours/week during the fall and spring semesters and 20 hours/week during the summer. Our internships can be undertaken for academic credit, and this is highly encouraged. Interns participate in a program of enrichment and career development opportunities. All interns are required to work onsite with their research project staff. Because interns work directly with our researchers and staff on current research projects, the internship positions vary depending on our research portfolio.

Spring 2016 Internship Program Notes and Application:

- Priority Application Deadline: October 30, 2015 (Please note that for some projects, this is the FINAL deadline. See project descriptions for more details.)
- Final Application Deadline: November 13, 2015
- Mandatory Intern Orientation: January 21-22, 2016