

UMF Student Employee Spotlight

Anthony Blasi,

Shift Leader, Mantor Library

For four years, Anthony Blasi has worked in a work study position at Mantor Library. He is a senior majoring in History with a minor in International and Global Studies. Anthony is a shift leader at Mantor. “Of the thirty or so student workers at the library, three of us have a shift leader job. This entails a lot more responsibility.... We make sure that the other student workers are able to do their jobs efficiently; that the library is a safe and clean space; and we are responsible for closing up at the end of the night,” explains Blasi.

Anthony enjoys the responsibility and leadership opportunities that working at the library has given him. “It is a wonderful job that has given me great experiences that I might not have had otherwise.” Anthony's schedule allows for a balance between work and academics, and the structure allows for him to effectively manage his time: “Work does not interfere with my homework, in fact it actually helps me to complete it.”

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Jess Isler Nickerson,
Anthony's Supervisor, says: "As a shift leader, Anthony works in a peer leadership role for his fellow library workers. Through his work at the library, Anthony has become empowered to build a positive team environment, to problem-solve challenging situations, and to assist both his coworkers and the general public in successfully navigating the library's technology-from physical books to online resources."

Anthony believes that working at Mantor has had a significant impact on his future career, “As a history major, this job has given me a significant boost in my field. Library sciences can be filed under information management; a skill that is in high demand across many fields.” After he graduates in 2019, Anthony hopes to become a commissioned officer in the U.S Navy: “I have always been interested in working for the government or in the military; so four years in an information management BEFORE I have even earned my degree has given me an advantage.”

*By Jordan Glassock
Work Initiative Student, Career Services*