

Intercultural Practicum (ICS3089)
School of Theology and Philosophy
Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Syllabus – Spring 2013

Credit: Two (2 semester hours)
Schedule: Upon agreement with student & supervisor
Room: ILE, San Jose, Costa Rica
Instructor: Matt Price, Matt.Price@mvnu.edu
Office: Campus Center, 2nd floor, School of Theology, ext. 3617, mobile: 740-504-3325

Course Description

An in-depth experience in a cross-cultural service and ministry setting.

The student will be able to gain practical experience by her/his involvement in an established ministry. The Practicum provides an opportunity for the student to engage in at least one type of specifically practice oriented toward serving a variety of other cultures or subcultures. During the practicum, students will also attend regular seminars where they will be able to discuss specific issues related to the ministry program with which they are involved (policies, strengths-weaknesses, practices, doubts, etc.). Students will be able to share what they have learned with their colleagues and mentors, and receive guidance.

Course Outcomes

At the end of this practicum/course, students will be able to:

- (1) recognize and appreciate the relevance and value of a liberal arts education for ministry preparation and service;
- (2) combine classroom studies with direct involvement in a potential life-long occupation;
- (3) have a better idea of their strengths, weaknesses, and future needs in terms of knowledge and skills;
- (4) clarify vocational goals; and
- (5) establish rapport with and establish friendships for future service and employment

Course Requirements

Intern/Supervisor Covenant

The learning covenant must be filled out and returned within the first week of beginning the internship. See below.

Work Log

The student intern must keep a daily log of activities and reflections on the experience. This should be submitted twice during the internship (once at mid-term and on the final day of the term).

Final Reflection

Write a 1500 word reflection using the five course outcomes as an outline. Spend adequate time integrating your previous course work, textbooks and classroom notes from other courses, and personal reflection on your college career with your experience in the internship. You should write at least 300 words per outcome.

Course Evaluation

The number of points accumulated during the semester determines the final grade.

Assignments	Points	Learning Hours
Student-Supervisor Covenant	200	5
Work Log (Mid-term submission)	300	40
Work Log (Final Day submission)	300	40
Final Reflection Paper	200	5
Total	1000	90 hrs

Grading scale is:

A 1000-900

B 899-800

C 799-700

D 699-600

F 599>

MVNU does not recognize A+ or D-

A, B, C = Pass/Satisfactory

D, F = Fail/Unsatisfactory

Course Policies

Integration of theory and application is fostered through personal reflection and praxis, and as such each student is responsible for their own learning. Students should expect to be engaged in self-motivated learning in this particular course for a minimum of six hours per week during the semester until the minimum number of internship or practicum hours have been reached. Note: Students are responsible for all Moodle and email communication sent for the course.

- **Attendance and Participation:** Regular attendance and participation is critical and expected, especially for courses that are required internships. required in the University Core. **You will lose 50 points for every five hours that are not accounted for in the work log.** *Please inform the professor and site supervisor as quickly as possible about any anticipated or unanticipated absences.*

The MVNU policy on class attendance provides consideration (through the Academic Affairs Office) for **four categories of excused absence**: 1) assignments with official university organizations (e.g. sports teams) and pre-arranged trips; 2) emergencies or death in the immediate family; 3) legal responsibilities; or 4) extended illness when an authorized medical official requires confinement to home, room, or hospital.

- **Integrity:** MVNU promotes and adheres to the principle of unquestioned honesty among students, faculty, and staff, a standard that governs relationships and behavior in the classroom, residence halls, chapel, and other campus activities. As a Christian community, students and faculty have a moral and ethical responsibility to uphold this standard and refrain from any activity that would involve academic dishonesty or lack of personal integrity. (See the University Catalog for definitions and examples or violations of academic integrity.) Please be aware that all work submitted must be done on a personal and individual basis unless otherwise stipulated in the instructions. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for that assignment and can result in failing the course
- **Format for papers:** Submit files with the following title: Course Assignment Last Name First Initial (for instance: ICS3089 Work Log PriceM). Papers should be formatted with 1" margins, 12 pt. font – New Times Roman/Arial/Tahoma, double-spaced, numbered pages. The works cited page is not included in the suggested word count. There is no excuse for misspelled words, poor grammar and wrong punctuation. Avoid long paragraphs. Rarely is a paragraph a page or more long. For suggestions on good writing style, consult Strunk & White's *The Elements of Style*. All written assignments must be typed using a standard MLA formatting for bibliography and citation of sources.

- **Late Work:** If you need more time on a project, I will listen carefully to understand your concerns. However, you must talk to me *before* the due date. Failure to receive an extension before the due date will result in a 10% reduction in points given for each class day after the due date, accumulating to 50%, unless arrangements are made in advance with the professor. Papers should be turned in to the instructor by the end of the class session on the day due. No assignments will be accepted after the final exam date. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for that assignment and can result in failing the course.
- **Disability statement:** Students who qualify for and desire accommodations in this course due to a disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, must follow the Disability Services Policies and Procedures as put forth by the office of Academic Support. A hard copy of the guidelines can be obtained at the Academic Support office or accessed in electronic form at the following web address: <http://www.mvnu.edu/academics/services/dservices.html>.

Course Schedule—Fall 2012

(see attached for particular internship requirements)

Course Documents

(see following pages)

Intern-Supervisor Covenant

(PLEASE NOTE: The covenant is to be completed the first week of the internship and returned immediately to the School of Theology and Philosophy Practicum and Internship Coordinator.)

Intern's Name	Supervisor		
Organization	ILE-Costa Rica		
Address			
Date of Internship	Jan 28, 2013	to	May 6, 2013

We, the undersigned, do agree to a mutual working agreement for the supplemental training of the above senior intern from Mount Vernon Nazarene University. **The Supervisor** will provide the experience, leadership and direction. **The local organization** will offer the community context where the intern will gain initial exposure and experience in ministry.

A. Expectations and Assumptions

It is agreed that the specific expectations (ground rules) will be:

Participate in a minimum of 6 hours per week in activities associated with the practicum
Report accrued hours on work log
Meet regularly designated supervisory leaders from ILE to reflect on your experience
Submit a biweekly update to the supervised ministry instructor

B. Overall Objective

It is agreed that the overall objective in this relationship will be:

To gain cross-cultural ministry experience
To learn the practices of Christian ministry as expressed in Tican culture
To serve social service agencies with a Christian attitude and Christ-like behavior
To be involved with Christian leaders in a foreign setting

C. Covenant Objectives

It is agreed that the intern will seek to render the following service to the church and community:

Participate in ILE chapel (Tue/Thu) and Sunday worship in a local congregation
Participate in ministry opportunities sponsored by ILE at Roble Alto orphanage, prison ministry, and office translations
Participate in ministry opportunities through activities organized through a local churches

D. Learning Objectives and Ministry Involvement

It is agreed that during the internship the intern will achieve the following learning objectives by participating in the following ministries:

Learning Objective 1: To gain cross-cultural ministry experience

Ministry Involvement for this objective:

- Participate in ILE chapel (Tue/Thu) and Sunday worship in a local congregation

Learning Objective 2: To participate in ministry opportunities organized through the local church

Ministry Involvement for this objective:

- Attend and assist in Tuesday prayer meetings and Saturday youth meetings in a local church

Learning Objective 3: To serve social service agencies with a Christian attitude and Christ-like behavior

Ministry Involvement for this objective:

- Participate in ministry opportunities sponsored by ILE at Roble Alto orphanage, prison ministry, and office translations on a weekly basis

Learning Objective 4: To be involved with Christian leaders in a foreign setting

Ministry Involvement for this objective:

- Regularly discuss ministry activities with leaders from ILE and local Christian churches through weekly meetings

E. Procedures for Evaluation:

- Work Log updated weekly and submitted at mid-term and at the end of the semester
- Weekly supervisor meetings
- Final Reflection paper connecting work experience to class content and course objectives

F. Regular Meeting Times:

It is agreed that the supervising pastor and/or leader will meet regularly with the intern for supervision, evaluation, and reflection. The frequency and times of these meetings will be:

- Weekly meeting with supervisory leader for one hour
- Biweekly Skype chat with supervisory instructor/practicum coordinator Thursday afternoon

Intern Signature

Date:

Supervisor Signature

Date:

MVNU Coordinator

Date:

Amendments (if any):

Intern Signature

Date:

Supervisor Signature

Date:

Work Log

Cut and paste into another document and fill out as completely as possible prior to submitting as an email attachment to the primary instructor.

Date	Goal	Significant Contacts	Work Responsibilities	Personal reflections

Final Reflection Paper

Respond to the following questions using previous courses and textbooks, other educational experiences, and what you discovered during the internship.

Respond to the following questions using previous courses and textbooks, other educational experiences, and what you discovered during the practicum.

What is the relevance and value of a liberal arts education for ministry preparation and a life of service? (Why is a college experience essential to what you experienced this summer? What questions or situations came up that would have been difficult or impossible to deal with if you had not attended college)

In what ways have you noticed classroom studies directly connect to the potential life-long occupation as experienced in the practicum? (Think links between particular courses, textbooks, professors, lectures, etc)

What are your strengths, weakness and future needs in terms of knowledge and skills necessary for this kind of work and ministry? (What have you learned that's helped you, and what do you still need to learn)

What changes or affirmations have happened to your vocational goals in light of this practicum experience? (Has it affirmed or helped you adjust your future plans for a major, grad school or career?)

What significant friendships have you made that will guide you in future service and employment? (Who had the most influence upon you this summer interns of supervisor, colleagues, etc.)