EXPL 301/302/303/304 Internship

Doug Epp (MRE)  
Fall 2019  
4 credit hours

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The mission of Columbia Bible College is to equip people for a life of discipleship, ministry, and leadership in service to the church and community.

I. Course Description

The Internship experience provides students with hands-on ministry training, which is an integral part of the learning process at Columbia Bible College. Under an approved Supervisor, interns receive a total of 420 hours (105/credit hour) of on-the-field exposure, training and experience in a practical service assignment.

Prerequisite: EXPL 202 Service Practicum IV, LDRS 201 Intro to Leadership Studies, and 60 hours of college credit.

Students must attend the Internship Orientation at the beginning of or prior to the first semester they have enrolled in EXPL 301. The internship cannot proceed if they don’t attend.

II. Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will grow in their knowledge of:

- Their personal skills, strengths and potential.
- Potential vocational directions relating to the internship assignment.

By the end of this course, students will grow in their Ability to...

- Evaluate personality traits and lifestyle as they affect personal growth and ministry.
- Assess their value system and assumptions about life, people, and ministry.
- Integrate theological knowledge and understanding with practical experience.
- Relate to people, situations and programs.
- Access and utilize key resources for addressing reports of sexual misconduct.

By the end of this course, students will grow in their Appreciation for...

- A spirit of interdependence and cooperation with the supervisor and co-workers.
- Personal and spiritual growth in their life and ministry.
III. **Course Textbooks**


IV. **Course Requirements**

1) **Meetings with the Director of Service Learning**
   You will meet with the DSL for one ½ hour session the week following the Orientation. You will sign up for the first meeting at the Orientation.

2) **Text Book Response** – Value 10% - October 7, 2019
   Read the text and submit a response that includes
   1. A one-page comment on the most significant thing(s) from the book that you feel will impact your internship experience.
   2. Answer the questions following each chapter as described in the guidelines below. Be both succinct and thoughtful in your responses.
      Guidelines for answering questions:
      1. Chapter 1 – question 1 or 4 (choose one)
      2. Chapter 2 – questions 2 or 4 or 5 or 7 (choose one)
      3. Chapter 3 – question 4 or 5 or 7 (choose one)
      4. Chapter 4 – questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 (do all of these)
      5. Chapter 5 – question 7 (no choice)
   3. At the end of the response include a statement confirming how thoroughly you read the book - using a 1-10 scale (10 being a very thorough reading).

3) **Additional Reading** – Value 15% - December 16, 2019
   A minimum of 125 pages per Internship Credit (500 pages total) should be assigned by the on-site supervisor. If you read more than one book, you can write a response based on an overview of all the reading or on the one book that had the most impact on your internship. The 2-3 page reading response should include:
   1. In one paragraph: What was the main idea the author was attempting to make? To what extent was that goal achieved?
   2. What were two or three key things you learned from this reading that was relevant to your internship?
   3. What were some of the strengths and weaknesses of the material you read?
   4. How were you able to use and apply some of the ideas in your internship ministry?
5. Why would or would you not recommend this book(s) to other interns for their reading benefit?

6. At the end of the response include a statement confirming how thoroughly you read the book - using a 1 -10 scale (10 being a very thorough reading).

4) **Theological Reflection** – Value 20% - End of Exam week of the semester you complete your internship

   Write a Theological Reflection Paper based on an experience of your choice from within your internship. Follow the model as discussed during the Internship Orientation. See Appendix to Syllabus.

5) **Regular Reports** – Value 15% - Due as per Learning Contract

   You will decide the exact due dates of your monthly reports when you complete the Learning Contract and it is your responsibility to send the reports in on time. Care should be given to thorough and thoughtful answers. All report forms are available on the CBC website to be submitted on-line.

6) **Field Assignment** – Value 40%

   You are required to do 105 hours of field work for every hour of credit and you will be evaluated by your on-site mentor/supervisor at the end of the internship process.

7) **Closing Interview** – Marks will be deducted if this is not done in a timely manor

   All internships wrap up with a closing interview between the Intern, Supervisor and the DSL. It is up to the student to arrange for a time to do this one hour interview toward the end or shortly after the conclusion of the internship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Due Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Value of Grade</th>
<th>Hours Expected</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 20, 2019</td>
<td>Orientation Seminar</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intern Schedules</td>
<td>Meeting with DSL</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>.5</td>
</tr>
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<td>October 7, 2019</td>
<td>Textbook Response</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 16, 2019</td>
<td>Additional Reading</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7 / credit hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Internship</td>
<td>Theological Reflection</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As per Learning Contract</td>
<td>Regular Reports</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intern Schedules</td>
<td>Closing Interview</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled Field Hours</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>105 /credit hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
V. **Course Outline**

Internship Process:

1) Students register for at least one credit of Internship. You need to register for at least one credit for every semester in which you are completing your internship until you reach your total number of credits for the internship.

2) Students attend the Internship Orientation either before or at the beginning of their first semester of internship. The internship cannot continue without attending the orientation.

3) Students meet with the Director of Service Learning (DSL) to discuss the type, location and timing of the internship placement.
   a. This meeting should happen the week following the Orientation.

4) Once a placement has been confirmed, students meet with their on-sight mentor/supervisor to complete the **Learning Contract**.
   a. This should be completed as soon as a potential internship assignment is decided upon.
   b. The internship placement is not final until the learning contract is handed in and approved by both their Program Director and the DSL.

5) Students and Mentor/Supervisors submit regular **reports**. Each student along with their supervisor determines their own specific due dates when completing the Learning Contract:
   a. For those doing their internship from two semesters up to a full calendar year, a total of five reports are due from the intern and 3 from the supervisor.
   b. For those doing their internship in the summer or over one semester, a total of three reports are due from both intern and supervisor.
   c. For internships longer than a year – talk to the DSL re: the number of reports.
      i. It is up to the student to make sure that their Supervisor is aware of this schedule.

6) In addition, students and Mentor/Supervisors also submit the **Comprehensive Evaluation** to the DSL a minimum of two days prior to the closing Interview.

7) Submit all assignments as outlined above in “Course Requirements”.

8) An Internship Closing Interview is scheduled at the conclusion of the internship
   a. The intent of this meeting is to bring your internship experience to an end by spending some time evaluating what took place.
b. The student should contact the DSL to schedule the interview for a time when the DSL can meet with both the intern and supervisor for approximately one hour.

9) The final grade is submitted to the Registrar’s office following the Closing Interview. If an internship placement runs for more than one semester the student’s transcript will show an “Incomplete” until the final closing interview is completed at the end of the internship.

VI. **Academic Policies**

For all CBC Academic Policies please refer to the Academic Manual on the CBC website. Students are expected to be informed about these policies, particularly the following:

- Attendance Policy
- Late Assignment Policy
- Academic Integrity
- Grading Grid
- Disability Support Policy
- Temporary Accommodations Policy for Medical Emergency, Bereavement, and Mental Health Crises

VII. **Special Instructions**

The primary criteria for an acceptable internship credit are:

- The experience must be completed after the Internship Orientation.
- The experience needs to fit with the student’s CBC program and life goals.
- The internship must be overseen by a qualified and approved mentor/supervisor.
- The setting needs to provide an opportunity for the student to learn and not just do.
- While we realize not all internships will be in organizations that fully align with CBC convictions, the setting should be in an organization that does not actively advocate for beliefs and practices that are contrary to those of CBC.
- The experience needs to provide an opportunity for the intern to live out their faith and apply what they have learned in the classroom context.
Manuals/Forms/Reports
All the needed information to properly complete your internship is available for download on the CBC Web Page at cumbiabc.edu. Under the “Academics” link go to “Service Learning” and then “Internship.

VIII. Selected Bibliography


**Service Learning books relating specifically to: BIBLICAL STUDIES**


**Service Learning books relating specifically to: YOUTH WORK**


**Service Learning books relating specifically to: CARE-GIVING/COUNSELLING:**


**Service Learning books relating specifically to: INTERCULTURAL STUDIES:**


**Service Learning books relating specifically to: WORSHIP ARTS**


**Service Learning books relating specifically to: CAREGIVING & COUNSELING**

**Service Learning resources relating specifically to SEXUAL ETHICS:**
*A Safe, Positive Community for All.* Columbia Bible College.
  [https://www.columbiabc.edu/cs/safe-community](https://www.columbiabc.edu/cs/safe-community).
*Sacred Trust: Fostering Safe Space in Congregations.* Mennonite Church Eastern Canada.
  [https://mcec.ca/sacredtrust](https://mcec.ca/sacredtrust).
*Understanding Sexual Abuse by a Church Leader or Caregiver.* Mennonite Central Committee, 2011.
IX. **Appendix - Theological Reflection Method**

The following steps will guide you through the theological reflection process. It is assumed the final product would be a written reflection using the following guidelines:

A. Event (2 pages)
   A. Identify / Describe
      a. Identify a very specific event or issue from your internship that would be helpful for you to more fully understand. It could be:
         1. A situation that caused frustration or conflict. A time when you felt a “pinch”, an uncomfortable feeling about how you responded.
         2. Or perhaps it is a belief or conviction that you have held where your present understanding was challenged.
      You begin with an event or issue that has raised questions or has somehow been a challenge for you.
      b. Carefully and thoroughly describe the situation/event/issue
         1. This is a case study.
         2. What happened; what did you do; how did you feel; how did others respond?

B. Analyze
   a. How did this experience impact you at various levels?
      1. Emotionally, physically, spiritually, intellectually
   b. How did you handle the event?
   c. What assumptions do you carry that caused you to respond the way you did?
      e.g. What are my assumptions about conflict that caused me to keep quiet about my opinions?
      OR
      How does my critical attitude toward others reflect my view of God, my parents or my church?
   d. How well or poorly did you understand the event?
   e. What is this experience teaching you about God, yourself or how you relate to others?
   f. Were there any barriers or conflicts which made the incident or relationship more difficult? If so, name them.
   g. How are various personalities involved in this experience?

C. Clarify
   a. What effect did this incident have on you?
   b. How has this incident affected your perspective and relationships in this context?
B. Reflection (3 pages)
   A. Identify the key issue or question
      a. Identify the “heart of the matter”. What is:
         i. A key theological question you want to address?
         ii. Or an issue you want to reflect on?
            Be as specific as possible.
   B. Explore
      a. Answer the theological question or explore the issue
      b. This needs to be a “broad” reflection using all four of the following: scripture and faith tradition; your classes (including fields like psychology and sociology); research; and your experience.
      c. Suspend judgment and forget that you already know the “answer” to the decision you face.
         i. You have to approach it with the attitude that there is still something that can be learned.

C. Further Insight / Decision
   A. Conclusions (1-2 pages)
      a. Write your conclusions, answering the question, “What did God teach you as a result of reflecting on this experience?” The answer may include things like:
         1. New insights into how to respond in a similar situation
         2. A new understanding of yourself
         3. A new theological perspective
         4. A new understanding of an issue
         5. A new understanding of God
         6. A new focus on the way you live life
      b. Finally clarify if there would be anything you would do differently based on the reflection process you have just completed.