**INTERNSHIP COURSE COMPETENCIES**

*\*Competencies for the first eight weeks of internship*

**Master of Arts in Ministry – Christian Spirituality**

*The faculty supervisor will provide guidance to students*

*in contextualizing the required competencies.*

*Thematic Requirement:* Students will disclose how they have critically reflected on social location and personal identity in ministry situations, and how their own location and personal identity affected awareness of themselves, others, and their context.

Section I: Be Aware

\*1. Students will develop and practice a spiritual discipline that is new for them throughout the internship that will prepare them for life as a Christian leader.

\*2. Students will develop and practice listening skills with laity and constituents of the larger community.

3. Students will strengthen their capacity for ethical leadership as they engage in interpersonal and intrapersonal relationships in order to have a healthy Christian life.

\*4. Students will strengthen their capacity to address personal physical concerns in order to have a healthy, Christian life and ministry.

Section II: Think Theologically

\*5. Students will develop the capacity to write sound theological reflection papers and to have serious theological conversations in the midst of daily life with both clergy and laity.

\*6. Students will strengthen their capacity for interacting with the spiritual practices of other religious traditions while nurturing interfaith relationships.

7. Students will demonstrate the capacity to critique the theological adequacy of their "in the moment" pastoral responses.

8. Students will develop and write a theology of Christian Spirituality that arises out of their internship experiences. The paper will 1) offer an understanding of spiritual formation within the Christian faith tradition, 2) describe how individuals, small groups and congregations/organizations engage in a process of spiritual discernment, and 3) offer a vision for Christian Spirituality as part of the Christian public witness and the theological framework, theologians and Scriptures that inform it. This assignment is part of the Final Evaluation paper.

Section III: Lead Faithfully

\*9. Students will demonstrate the capacity to lead staff and laity in a theological discussion on the outcomes of a student-led contextual study of the congregation/agency. Particular focus will be given to how the congregation/agency values and emphasizes spiritual formation in programming, staffing, funding, organizational power, and decision-making. The study will begin early in the internship and be completed by a deadline set by the faculty supervisor. The faculty supervisor sets the specific guidelines. A report of the study (5 to 8 pages written, PowerPoint, video, audio, etc.) will be submitted to the faculty supervisor, mentor pastor, the placement supervisor (if not the mentor pastor), and the lay teaching committee.

10. Students will demonstrate their leadership ability in three (3) areas of group experience related to their work in Christian Spirituality: Planning, Execution and Evaluation. Examples of these include but are not limited to:

* Spiritual formation retreats
* Ongoing spiritual formation small groups
* Spiritual formation curriculum for leadership development events such as Sunday School teachers, children and youth leaders, administrative council leaders, etc.

\*11. Students will demonstrate the capacity to manage their schedules in a way that aids in meeting the responsibilities in all aspects of their life.

\*12. Students will demonstrate the capacity to articulate a Christian Spirituality approach concerning social, environmental and economic justice work in partnership with others through engagement in at least one broad-based community action.