**INTERNSHIP COURSE COMPETENCIES**

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

**Master of Arts in Ministry – Urban Ministry**

*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 1: Be Aware

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

\*2. Students will develop an awareness of their self-identity in order to analyze how it is *affected by* and *has the power to affect* the systemic and institutional inequality and injustice in their present locales and beyond.

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

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

\*5. Students will develop the capacity to become aware of the underlying assumptions that impact how they communicate with those with whom they differ, through reflecting on the life experiences/values that formed these assumptions. They will demonstrate this growth in their theological reflection papers and conversations.

Section 2: Think Theologically

\*6. Students will gain the capacity to write theological reflection papers and to have serious theological conversations *in the midst of* daily ministry.

\*7. Students will develop the habit of reflecting theologically upon a relevant community issue in light of a particular theologian's insights and/or a particular theological framework.

8. Students will theologically reflect on and articulate how the work of urban ministry is part of the process of faith formation.

9. Students will critically reflect on diverse theologically informed urban ministry methodologies as they develop their particular theological framework for urban ministry. This ongoing reflection will be developed in the student’s theological reflection papers.

10. Students will demonstrate their capacity to write a theology of urban ministry that arises out of their internship ministry experiences. This paper will 1) offer an understanding of urban ministry within the Christian faith tradition; 2) critically reflect on the justice issues arising from historic and current power dynamics within urban ministries; and 3) offer a vision for urban ministry practices and the theological framework, theologians and Scriptures that inform these. This assignment is part of the Final Evaluation Paper.

Section 3: Lead Faithfully

\*11. Students will demonstrate their capacity to lead laity and staff in a theological conversation on the outcomes of a student-led contextual study of the congregation and/or agency's mission, ministry/programs and resources. Attention will be given to social, economic, political, religious, and cultural institutions in the city and/or local community. 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.

\*12. Students will gain an overview of the fundamentals of non-profit organization and administration.

\*13. Students will gain an overview of the fundamentals of community organizing principles and strategies.

\*14. Students will develop the capacity to preach, teach, develop worship liturgy, or offer public prayers that demonstrate a justice-based theological framework to address issues currently facing the local and global communities.

\*15. Students will demonstrate their capacity to manage their schedules effectively in order to meet their responsibilities to the Internship course, ministry, self and family.