**INTERNSHIP COURSE COMPETENCIES**

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

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

*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 throughout the internship to 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 to address personal physical concerns in order to nurture a healthy, Christian life and ministry.

\*4. 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 II: Think Theologically

\*5. Students will develop the capacity to write theological reflection papers and to have serious theological conversations *in the midst of* daily ministry.

6. Students will demonstrate their facility to frame current local and global issues theologically within liturgy and the educational ministry.

\*7. Students will develop the capacity to appreciate and relate in a healthy way to different theologically informed viewpoints and ministry methodologies.

8. Students will demonstrate their ability to write a theology of Christian Education. This paper will 1) critically reflect on the status of Christian faith formation of the persons within and without the church; 2) identify the challenges to faith formation created by the current institutional and intersecting power dynamics (life and death concerns); and 3) offer a vision for an educational ministry and the theological framework, theologians, and Scripture that informs it. This assignment is part of the Final Evaluation Paper.

Section III: Lead Faithfully

\*9. Students will review the internship placement’s educational ministry as they demonstrate their ability to conduct, in partnership with laity and staff, a contextual study of the congregation and/or agency's mission and resources. The study will provide data from which to analyze the educational program's strengths and offer the placement new possibilities for consideration. 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 ability to teach adults in Christian faith formation with theological insights and resourcefulness.

\*11. Students will demonstrate their ability to resource educational ministries through a working knowledge of various teaching methods to meet the specific and current age level needs of the placement.

12. Students will demonstrate their ability to recruit and train small group leaders, teachers, and other volunteers.

13. Students will demonstrate their ability to design as well as to write, adapt, or choose appropriate educational materials to support diverse educational ministries.

\*14. Students will create and effectively manage their calendars in order to meet their responsibilities to the Internship course, placement, self and family.