

CFM 251: Ministry Practicum (UG)

Instructor: Daniel Haase

Office: BGC 238

Daniel.Haase@wheaton.edu

630.752.7953

Credit Hours: 0 semester hours

Catalog Course Description

Integrating the theories learned in the classroom with the practices of ministry, students will participate in a specific ministry context approved by the CFM Internship Coordinator & their faculty advisor. **The textbook for the course is *A Diary of Private Prayer* by John Baillie.** The practicum includes a summative assignment in which students consider the links between ministry principles, personal spiritual formation, and practical skills.

Relationship to Christian Formation mission

Disciple-making is central to the work of the Church in the world. This is the educational ministry of the Church ~ to help people as they are being formed toward the likeness of Christ, and it is for this purpose that the Christian Formation and Ministry Department (CFM) of Wheaton College exists. Our mission is to facilitate the development of academically grounded, spiritually maturing, and practically skilled leaders who minister the Gospel and build up God's people in a constantly changing world. We seek to nurture wisdom and compassion in students who are becoming...

A. Academically grounded in that they:

1. Articulate a biblical, theological, historical, and philosophical perspective of formation and ministry.
2. Identify a theoretical framework for ministry context analysis.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the educational, spiritual, and ministry practices by which people mature in Christ.

B. Spiritually maturing in that they:

1. Demonstrate a life of discipleship and spiritual growth as the foundation of effective ministry.
2. Identify one's gifts and calling, responding to areas of strength and challenge in preparation for serving the needs of the church and the world.
3. Respect every person, valuing the diversity of cultures, ethnicities, and traditions within the church.

C. Practically skilled in that they:

1. Minister and teach effectively, integrating theory and Scripture into creative practice with integrity, humility, and grace.
2. Serve collaboratively and compassionately, balancing the needs of others with adequate self-care.
3. Demonstrate the necessary skills of a ministry practitioner/scholar: critical analysis; oral communication; written communication; program evaluation.

Practicum Requirements

The purpose of this practicum is to infuse ministry experience with **intentional** critical reflection to integrate practical skill development with academic grounding and spiritual maturing in line with our CFM mission. Students will choose a practicum that spans at least a semester. Students are encouraged to enroll in CFM 251 (0 credits) in multiple semesters, although only one semester is required for graduation. **The student is also encouraged to meet this requirement through a summer ministry program at HoneyRock.** If HoneyRock is not an option, other contexts may be considered. The practicum requirement can be met fall, spring or summer and requires a minimum of 80 clock hours within at least a 6-week timeframe (however, it is highly suggested that a student's engagement in time and experience would exceed these minimum requirements).

Practicum Objectives

All of the objectives below identify the end goals of this practicum. By the completion of the practicum, students will have:

1. met with the CFM Internship Coordinator who will provide guidance and oversight throughout the practicum;
2. demonstrated engagement with the *practically skilled* elements of the CFM department objectives (C1, C2, C3) through participation and leadership in a ministry setting (while also intentionalizing other selected department objectives within the *academically grounded* and *spiritually maturing* outcomes of the BA degree); and
3. synthesized and articulated the connections between their academic course work and the practical skills they gained and exhibited during the practicum (*Center for Vocation and Career partnership requirements: 1) utilize myStory by meeting with your coach in the CVC & 2) attend at least one Canvas program*).

Practicum Process

The practicum experience itself is designed in partnership between the CFM Internship Coordinator and the student. Students will complete the Ministry Practicum Application Form together with the Internship Coordinator, which identifies the experience itself, the expectations and responsibilities of the practicum, and the name and contact information of the person who is in a supervisory role during this practicum (i.e. the practicum site supervisor). The Practicum Application Form is then submitted to the academic advisor for final approval and then submitted to the registrar.

Assessment:

There are two assessment components for this experience. First, with the CFM Internship Coordinator, choose one of the following assessments that you both believe would best fit the nature of your practicum:

- regular reflective responses that address the “practically skilled” objectives and incorporate insights from what you are learning in your classes that apply to your ministry experiences;
- a final reflective paper which views your ministry experience through the lens of your academic course work and/or your academic readings; or
- a final reflective paper which views your ministry experience through the lens of the “spiritual maturing” objectives; or
- another mode of assessment decided upon by you and your faculty advisor.

A second assessment component for this experience is an evaluation by your on-site practicum supervisor, indicating that you have successfully completed the practicum. This evaluation is attached to this syllabus.

The grade for this practicum will be either a Pass or a Fail.

Appointments and Assistance

Your practicum experience, *and*, more importantly, your spiritual development, is very important to me. Please do not hesitate to schedule an appointment with me to discuss your practicum experiences, your experiences in your program, or your experience here at Wheaton College. This practicum experience should be one where you are continually reflecting upon the practice of ministry and how it interacts with your academic learning and informs your own spiritual growth. As your practicum advisor, I am here to process these reflections alongside you. Finally, along with the ***myStory engagement***, participation in at least one Center for Vocation & Career (CVC) ***Canvas*** program is also required.

CFM 251: Ministry Practicum Application Form

Student Name: _____ ID#: _____ DATES: _____

Student Email address: _____ Cell #: _____

Practicum Title: _____

Practicum Location: _____

Practicum Site Supervisor: _____

Practicum Site Supervisor Email Address: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Practicum Advisor (*Dan Haase*) _____ Date: _____

Academic Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Practicum Vision Statement: Identify why you are entering into this ministry practicum and what you hope to accomplish or learn by the end of your experience.

CFM Objective Completion: Using the department objectives listed on the front page (with particular attention to column C “practically skilled”), identify specific and tangible ways you will address those three objectives. Also, highlight any other appropriate objectives you will meet with regard to “academically grounded” and “spiritually maturing.” NOTE: requirements with CVC – 1) myStory interaction with CVC coach & 2) attend at least one Canvas program.

DISTRIBUTION: Registrar & Dan Haase (CFM)

MINISTRY PRACTICUM EVALUATION FORM
(to be completed by the ministry partner)

Practicum Title: _____

Practicum Location: _____

Practicum Site Supervisor: _____

Dear Practicum Site Supervisor,

*Thank you so much for your work with a student from the Department of Christian Formation and Ministry at Wheaton College. In order to help us gain an understanding of how well our students are doing in a practical ministry context, we would like your feedback on their progress. Please complete the following evaluation and return it to **Daniel Haase, Department of CFM, Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL 60187**, or email it as an attachment to **Daniel.Haase@wheaton.edu**.*

Student Name: _____ **Practicum Term:** _____

	(1) not acceptable	(2) needs improvement	(3) progressing well	(4) outstanding
Fulfilled the expectations of the ministry practicum.				
Exhibited responsibility in ministry assignments.				
Ministered and/or taught effectively, integrating theory and Scripture into creative practice with integrity, humility, and grace.				
Served collaboratively and compassionately, balancing the needs of others with adequate self-care.				
Demonstrated the necessary skills of a ministry practitioner/scholar: critical analysis; oral communication; written communication; program evaluation				
Exhibited appropriate behavior for the ministry context (e.g., punctuality, dress, language)				

Overall (Please add any comments you would like)

This student has demonstrated sufficient ministry potential: ___ YES ___ NO

Practicum Site Supervisor Signature _____ **Date** _____