

Where Life Emerges as the Teacher

Course Description:

At Christian Leadership University, we believe that life is a wonderful and powerful teacher. The truths distilled from life and from the lives of those who have gone before us are taught in the classroom through the Holy Scriptures and other books. We then take these truths out of the realm of head knowledge and put them into action in our lives through clearly defined practica experiences. One who is ahead of us in the area in which we are growing serves as a mentor who watches our lives and allows us to watch his. Because he has already mastered the skill we are trying to master, he can more readily sense what our blocks are and the changes that must be made so we can advance most quickly and surely. It is with great anticipation and unswerving attention that we watch the eyes, sense the heart, and observe the actions of our precious God-given mentors. Prerequisite: LEA310 Apprenticed to Leadership

Course Requirements

1. Spend at least 35 hours per credit or 105 in a 3-credit practicum experience, including research, practicum activity and report generation. Travel time is not to be included unless it is in some way an integral part of the practicum experience. This may be 6 hours per week for 12 weeks, or a 10-day mission's trip, or some other creative format.
2. Maintain a record of your hours, activities, and insights on the Weekly Report Forms in your Practicum Documentation Journal.
3. Receive satisfactory midterm and final evaluations from your supervisor.
4. Reflect biblically about the experiences you had during your practicum. What principles and examples has God shown you from Scripture that give you a Divine perspective on your activities? Discuss what God has spoken to you about your work and this experience. This "Summary of Biblical Reflections" is to be a minimum of three typewritten pages and is to be submitted at the close of the practicum.

5. Prayerfully reflect on the experiences you had during your practicum. Journal about them and record some of what God has spoken to you about these experiences. This "Summary of Prayerful Reflections" is to be a minimum of three typewritten pages and is to be submitted at the close of the practicum.

Practical Procedures

1. How to discover where to go for your practicum
 - Look for practicum opportunities around you that offer a chance to experientially deepen the lessons you are taking in your courses.
 - Consider practicum opportunities that offer a variety of experiences in the area of your ultimate ministry/vocational focus.
 - Consider people in your area that model leadership in the area in which you are seeking to grow. You want to learn from the best, not the average.
 - Consider their willingness and ability to commit to you. Do they have the time, ability, and personnel to care for you and instruct you?
 - Are the working conditions acceptable to you?
 - Are they willing to enter into the practicum contract with you?
 - Ask God to lead and direct you to the right location and people, and listen to your heart.
2. Steps to confirming your practicum choice and mentor
 - Get his verbal agreement to mentor you.
 - Complete the contracts between the two of you. The contract can be for 12 weeks. If that case, it should require weekly meetings between you. Mail this contract to CLU before the practicum begins. (A practicum may also be fitted into a 10-day mission's trip, etc.).

- Financial relationships should also be confirmed. In many practica, there is no exchange of money. In some, the apprentice pays the mentor for the experience. In others, the mentor pays the apprentice. This decision is left up to the mentor.

3. During the twelve week practicum

- There are to be weekly meetings between the student and mentor.
- The student maintains the Record Log of hours worked. This does not include hours traveling to and from the practicum location. Only time spent actively engaged in the practicum, completing reports, and doing research or study for the practicum are to be logged.
- The student maintains weekly (or daily) records of activities performed and lessons learned in a practicum documentation journal which is submitted to CLU at the end of the course.

The student is to prayerfully reflect on the activities he is doing. Keep a record of these reflections on the log sheets. If the practicum is completed in 12 weeks, you may fill in one log sheet per week. If it is compacted to twelve days (such as a missions practicum, etc.), a log should be filled out each day.

- Also **reflect biblically** about your work. What principles and examples does God show you from Scripture that give you a Divine perspective on your activities?
- A total of 105 hours are to be logged for a 3-credit practicum.

4. At the close of the practicum

- Both the student and the mentor should fill out and turn in to CLU the various summary forms which are attached. These forms are all parts of the “Practicum Documentation Journal.” A final grade will not be given until all work is received by CLU. This notebook will be extremely valuable to you as the years go on as it is a concrete summary of your prayerful biblical and experiential reflections, growth, and development.

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, “C” or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least “B” (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a “B”.

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, CLU is training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- “D”
 - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- “C”
 - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- “B”
 - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- “A”
 - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.