

Cross-cultural Service Learning

05.100/6 credits

Outtatown Discipleship School, a program of CMU

Course Syllabus 2007/2008

Director: Paul Kroeker (B.Sc., M.A., Th.M. Regent College)

Course Description

Service Learning is a supervised, structured, experience-based learning opportunity that involves the student in action, reflection, and response on: teamwork, cooperation, leadership, cross-cultural communication and relationships, as well as the role that money, education and power dynamics can play in these situations (see attachment on experiential learning cycles). During the first semester in Canada, the students will serve in urban ministries in Winnipeg and Vancouver, complete various work assignments with Christian retreat centers and participate in ministry with an indigenous people group. During the second semester students will serve in their international location building houses with Habitat for Humanity, working with children in orphanages and schools and providing assistance in the various Churches and ministries we are associated with in that country (This course will fulfill the requirements for a 6 credit practicum in most CMU programs except those with very specific practicum requirements such as music therapy and IDS).

Assignments:

Various studies have demonstrated that students' overall learning in a service assignment is enhanced if they have opportunity to reflect on and discuss their experiences and insights with others. After each of the major service assignments there will be an opportunity for group reflection and students will be asked to provide a reflective journal entry evaluating their experience and what they have learned.

Students on this program can expect to spend approximately 30 - 40 hours in service assignments in the first semester during their urban plunge programs and various Christian ministry programs. During the second semester the students can expect to spend approximately 80 – 120 hours in service ministry. A full group discussion, journaling and further discussion in small groups or mentoring sessions will allow for the interpretive process to be realized.

Evaluation:

Journal entry for urban plunge projects (two events)	20%
Journal entry for service ministries in Canada	10%
Work with Canadian Aboriginal Community	10%
Journal entries with international programs (6 events)	60%

Assignments will differ between those in South Africa and those in Guatemala and will be articulated for each group.