

PMIN101/102 - Ministry Involvement Elective

Eternity Bible College

Professor: Ernesto Duke

Course Description

This is a practicum class that gives credit for expanded ministry involvement. The ministry requirement may be fulfilled through ministry at any theologically like-minded local church. 120 hours per semester (8 hours/week for 15 weeks) are required to receive credit for this course. These 8 hours are in addition to the 4 hours per week required of all students. This class may be taken a total of two times. The Course Code for the second time will be PMIN102.

Course Objectives

Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- Better understand the nature of ministry, including its joys and its challenges.
- Experience practical, hands on local church ministry.
- Better understand their own ministry gifts and abilities.

Contact Information

Feel free to contact me with questions via email: eduke@eternitybiblecollege.com

Structure of the Class

This class will never meet as a group; all communication and submission of assignments will be via Eternity's online campus, Canvas. This is a Pass/Fail class. If the prescribed number of hours are met, and the assignments are satisfactorily completed, the student will receive a PASS for the course. These requirements do not have to be completed within the semester calendar. The student must submit a Proposal to the Director of Church Relations outlining their planned ministry involvement within the first two weeks of the semester for which he/she is registered. The overseeing professor must approve the Proposal.

The student must work closely with their Local Church Mentor during this time of expanded ministry. A time of debriefing the student's ministry experiences must be a part of the regular meeting between student and mentor. The student's mentor may serve as the Ministry Supervisor, or the Ministry Supervisor may be some other ministry leader whom the student serves under/with.

For Example: The student may be serving in the area of youth ministry for this course. The student's Local Church Mentor may not be involved in youth ministry, so the Youth Pastor may serve as the Ministry Supervisor. But the Local Church Mentor will also provide insight, oversight, and debrief time.

Timeline

- Register for PMIN101/102 for the following semester.
- Discuss with your pastor, Mentor, or Ministry Supervisor and explain the requirements of this elective. You may expand your current volunteer position to fulfill this elective. If your pastor, Mentor or Ministry Supervisor would like to contact me, give them my information.
- Submit the online PMIN101 Proposal Form to the Director of Church Relations for approval within the first two weeks of the semester (found online under the “current students” tab)
- Complete the time requirements and assignments within 20 weeks of proposal being approved.
- Have your Ministry Supervisor complete the online Ministry Supervisor Evaluation Form.
- Complete the online Student Evaluation Form.

Assignments:

[Note: if the student is taking this class for the second time, a different book must be read, a different person must be interviewed, and a new final paper must be written.]

1. Ministry Involvement

The student must be actively involved in ministry under the authority of their local church for an average of 8 hours per week (in addition to the 4 hours per week required of all students) for a total of 120 hours for the semester. This ministry must be in an area that interests the student for possible future ministry, with a high emphasis on discipleship. This ministry involvement must consist of direct personal ministry such as discipleship, teaching, counseling, etc. Administration, data entry, facility setup/teardown, tech/media, etc. does not qualify for this assignment. Completion of the 15 weeks of ministry may continue past the end of the semester in which the student is registered.

2. Reading

Talk with your Mentor and/or Ministry Supervisor and/or pastor about an appropriate book about ministry that they suggest you read. This can be specific to your ministry (such as youth ministry, small groups, worship ministry) or it can be more general about ministry or the character of a follower of Christ. Read the book, discuss with your Mentor and/or Ministry Supervisor, and write a 2-3 page book review. Include in your review:

1. Lessons and principles learned that you could apply to the ministry setting.
2. Reason why your Mentor suggested this book (N/A if you choose one of the books below).
3. How your perspective on ministry has changed because of reading this book.

Some suggested readings are:

- Spiritual Leadership* by Oswald Sanders
- The Great Evangelical Recession* by John S. Dickerson
- Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership* by Gary L. McIntosh & Samuel D. Rima

3. Interview

The student is to interview someone who has been serving in local church ministry for at least 10 years. This may be someone in full-time vocational ministry, or it may be someone who serves as a volunteer. The following questions are to be asked. Answers and results are to be summarized in a 2-3

page paper. Include the name of the person, the name of the church, the ministry(ies) involved in, and how long they have been involved.

- What is the greatest joy you have found in ministry?
- What is the greatest frustration in ministry?
- How would you have done things differently in your past ministry involvement?
- Do you feel like you are serving in your area of giftedness? Why or why not?

4. Final Paper

Submit a 5-7 page paper summarizing your experience in ministry. The paper must include the following:

- Explain perspectives and insights that your Local Church Mentor provided. Discuss the value of having the Local Church Mentor as a sounding board.
- Discuss things you wish you had done differently. Use the following points as a guideline:
 - Discuss 2-3 'mistakes' or 'weaknesses' your Local Church Mentor observed that you made in doing this ministry, and how you addressed those issues. These must be observations from your Local Church Mentor. Feel free to also include your own observations in this area.
 - How will you do ministry differently in the future as a result of this experience?
- Evaluate how this ministry fits with your giftedness. What were some of the joys or 'successes' you experienced? Will you continue to do this same ministry in the future, or will you do something different?
- Conclude the paper with a summary of how you grew personally as a result of this ministry experience. Include elements of spiritual growth and growth in understanding of the realities of ministry in the local church.

All papers should be written using the EBC Style Guide.

5. Evaluation Forms

The student and the Ministry Supervisor must fill out and submit the appropriate online Evaluation Forms.