The School of Church Ministries: Field Education Policy

**What is the purpose of Church Ministries Field Education?**

The purpose of Church Ministries Field Education is to provide students an opportunity to observe and participate in an effective local church ministry. This field education opportunity serves as reinforcement to what is taught in the classroom.

One of the unique aspects of the School of Church Ministries (SCM) is not only the high standard of academic excellence but the practical expression of ministry: The classroom and field education function in tandem to produce one of the most effective and comprehensive training programs in the country. Experienced faculty, coordinated ministry curriculum, and partnering sites function under the authority of the SCM and the Dean.

**Church Ministries Field Education**

Every SCM student is **required** to serve each semester at a “Partnering Site” for a minimum of five hours per week.

The School of Church Ministries (SCM) partners with local church sites where SCM students serve in the field while progressing through their degree program. These local church sites each have its own unique character and qualities. The Field Education is designed to integrate field experience with classroom instruction. Every SCM student is required to serve each semester at an “SCM Partnering Site” for a minimum of five hours per week. School of Church Ministries students are required to take two of these courses within their first 4 semesters of studies. **No more than one of these courses may be taken in one semester.**

**EXCEPTIONS:** Students who are serving in a part-time or full-time ministry in a local church position may use their church as their SCM Partnering Site.

Students enrolled in the M.Div. or M.A. in Youth & Family Ministry are required to serve at an International Center for Youth & Family Ministry Partnering Site. A list of ICFYM Partnering churches is available in the SCM Office.

**NOTE:** Two field education courses may be taken concurrently in cases where the student anticipates graduating within the following two semesters. In these cases, students should register for an additional course by contacting the Associate Dean for Masters Studies or the course professor.

**Identifying a Partnering Church/Site**

Student can contact the School of Church Ministries Field Education Coordinator for suggested partnering churches/sites. Students may also contact a potential SCM partnering church/site and request that they submit an application to become a partnering church/site.
Registration and Class Scheduling

Students should register for one of the following courses through Moodle:

- 45190 Leadership Field Education: Survey
- 45193 Leadership Field Education: Leadership

Youth & Family Ministry students should register for one of the following courses through Moodle:

- 46290 Leadership Field Education: Survey
- 46293 Leadership Field Education: Leadership

Worship Leadership Students should register for one of the following courses through Moodle:

- 40690 Worship Leadership Field Education: Survey
- 40693 Worship Leadership Field Education: Leadership

These courses are normally offered each semester on Mondays from 11:00 a.m.-12:50 p.m. Classes will be scheduled for five (5) Mondays during the semester. The class meetings will be comprised of instruction, discussion, and reporting. Students are required to serve in a local church ministry for a minimum of five (5) hours per week for each field education course.

Students will be given a syllabus that includes observations, interviews, and ministry assignments that are specific to their area of local church ministry. Syllabi will include the following areas of ministry congruent with the degree concentrations in the School of Church Ministries:

Leadership
Discipleship & Family Ministry
Children’s & Family Ministry
Youth & Family Ministry
College Ministry
Worship Leadership

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:** As questions arise, please refer to the syllabus. If you do not find the answer there, please email the instructor.