

Internship Guidelines for Worship Leader Supervisors

Thank you for being willing to supervise one of our ministry minor students in the worship leadership track. In general, Hope's expectation is that an internship will involve both observation and participation: your student intern should be given the opportunity to observe key aspects of worship ministry and to participate in and provide leadership for some of those aspects.

We asked several worship leaders what they believed to be important goals and opportunities to enable students to learn some of the basics of leading worship. We have summarized these below in an effort to help you create the best possible internship experience for your student. We hope that by the end of their internship and their time in the Studies in Ministry minor, students will have the wisdom, knowledge, and experience to meet these learning goals.

- Learning Goal: The intern will understand that central to worship leadership is the calling to be a pastor.
 - The supervisor should model and emphasize that people, discipleship, and spiritual formation are a priority in ministry, even when the focus of ministry is music and worship.
- Learning Goal: The intern will understand the role of music within the worship service and have a theological understanding of the purposes and practice of worship.
 - The supervisor will demonstrate an awareness of the place of music within worship and the role of God within the planning and implementation of a worship service.
 - The supervisor will remind the student that music ought to be framed by the larger purposes of worship, reflect a variety of emotions and circumstances, promote active worship among participants, and be aware of the active presence of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Learning Goal: The intern will understand the importance of administration to worship leadership; the intern will have the skills to do administration and the theological framework to view administration positively.
 - The supervisor will help the student to understand the different administrative details that are involved in worship leadership. This includes such things as planning rehearsals, selecting music, being prompt, being prepared, giving needed attention to scheduling, and recruiting for congregational involvement in worship.
 - The student will observe and, where appropriate, be involved in helping with these details.

- Learning Goal: The intern will be equipped to encourage the gifts and talents of those within the congregation who participate in or help to facilitate worship.
 - The supervisor will allow the student to observe him/her helping others develop and cultivate their gifts and talents. This may involve initial recruitment, try-outs, practices, and ways of providing feedback (positive and critical) to those directly involved with worship.

- Learning Goal: The intern will be more aware of his or her own gifts related to music and worship and will be committed to continuing to cultivate those gifts.
 - The supervisor should assist in developing the student's area of giftedness.
 - The student should be given the opportunity to lead the congregation vocally or musically, in their specific area of worship.

- Learning Goal: The intern will know how to design, participate in, and lead worship for a congregation.
 - As the supervisor prepares for and leads worship for the congregation, the student will observe all areas of this preparation process.
 - The student will be given the opportunity to sit in on planning meetings, contribute to planning, sing or play an instrument where appropriate, and participate in a choir where appropriate.
 - The student will be given the opportunity to design and lead a service under the supervision of his/her mentoring supervisor.

- Learning Goal: The intern will be familiar with the technical components involved in music and worship in a church setting.
 - The supervisor should introduce the student to the technical aspects of leading worship at the internship site.
 - The student will observe the technical side of this ministry and assist in worship in this capacity.

As you progress through the year with your intern, you are encouraged to identify his/her strengths and weaknesses in ministry. Telling your interns what you perceive to be their gifts and areas where they could be used in ministry is a great gift to them! Thank you for being a part of this important process of discerning God's call in their life.