



Nipawin Bible College
PR2033 Outreach Ministry Practicum (OMP)
Winter 2024
3 Credit Hours
Mr. Jason Elford
jason@nipawin.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will participate in an immersive ministry practicum designed for exposure to a broad range of needs and ministry opportunities in an urban context.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Corbett, Steve, and Brian Fikkert. *When Helping Hurts*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2009. (pp. 21-249)

COURSE OUTCOMES

1. To develop skills necessary for unified, effective teamwork.
2. To cultivate flexibility for servanthood in varied ministry settings.
3. To be immersed and exposed to a variety of inner-city ministries, having opportunity to serve and observe in varying degrees dependent on the ministry.
4. Growth in understanding social justice issues in Canadian urban centres and seeing them through the lens of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
5. Providing opportunity to experience the joy and privilege of serving people in need.
6. To nurture Christ-like compassion for people of deep need, and who look or seem different than us.
7. Personal growth in understanding one's gifts, strengths, and weaknesses.

REQUIREMENTS

Orientation

- We will meet five times as a team before we leave. These meetings will roughly be one, to one and a half hours in length. Attendance and participation in the orientation meetings is mandatory and promptness is expected. **Discretionary absences are not allowed for this course, including orientation meetings.** The textbook reading will be discussed at the beginning of each meeting, therefore absences or lates will affect the textbook reading grade as well as evaluations. Orientation will include information and interaction to help prepare you for the practicum, along with emphasis on spiritual preparation. Punctuality, attentiveness, and participation are key expectations.

MEETING DATES: October 30; November 13; November 27; December 4 (*potential alternate: Friday December 8*); **Thursday, January 4**

Textbook Reading Assignment - 20%

- Read pages 21-249 of *When Helping Hurts* by Corbett and Fikkert. You are not required to write a paper or even “mark it up.” However, be prepared to discuss during orientation sessions and the trip itself. Grading will be based on the student’s participation in discussion during OMP meetings. At each meeting, students will also be asked if they completed their reading or not. This book is widely referenced by mission and ministry agencies.
 - **Intro-Ch 2** (pgs 21-68) **DUE: Monday, November 13th**
 - **Ch 3 - Ch 5** (pgs 71-131) **DUE: Monday, November 27th**
 - **Ch 6 - Ch 8** (pgs 133-183) **DUE: Monday, December 4th**
 - **Ch 9 - Final Word** (pgs 185-249) **DUE: Thursday, January 4th**

Practicum Journal - 20%

- The student will record and submit a journal of the practicum experience. **There must be at least one journal entry per day of the trip**, providing details and reflections on the day-to-day activities of the practicum. **Journal entries must be done on the same day or AT THE LATEST, the day after the experience.** The purpose of this is to provide an “inside look” at the overall experience.
- Grading criteria for the journal will be: consistency of entries and depth of interaction. Much more than simply being a record of *what* you did, it needs to also **comment on insights, personal reflections, lessons learned, evaluation, etc.** (*Students may hand in the journal itself, or type out their entries afterward and hand in according to NBC guidelines for paper-writing. If you are handing in your actual journal, you must ensure it is readable, or appropriate deductions will be made.*)
- **No entries may be made after we arrive in Nipawin.**

DUE: Monday, January 22nd @ 5:00pm

Evaluations - 40%

- Each student will be evaluated by their instructor and their peers (a minimum of 5 peer evaluations) in a number of areas including willingness to serve, contribution to the needs of the team, flexibility, daily preparation for ministry, dedication to the tasks at hand, and openness to learn.
- Penalties apply to students submitting a late evaluation.

DUE: Monday, January 22nd @ 5:00pm

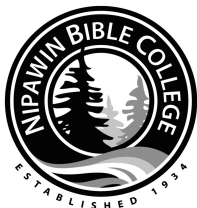
Practicum Analysis/Synthesis Interview - 20%

- The student will engage in a roughly 30 minute, one-on-one conversation with the instructor(s), with the following questions (among others) being discussed:
 - a) What have you learned about yourself?
 - How did you do at “serving”? Is serving a strength, or perhaps a spiritual gifting? What was your motivation? Do you value servanthood more now than before?
 - Talk about serving “out of your comfort zone.” Did you discover any giftings, strengths, weaknesses?
 - Talk about the ease or difficulty to “consider it all joy” or see the privilege of serving in the ways we did.
 - Was there a specific ministry you appreciated or connected with? Share.
 - b) What have you learned about others?
 - What have you learned about the urban poor?
 - How have your perceptions of the “destitute” changed as a result of this experience?
 - How did you experience your compassion for others being affected? Toward teammates? Toward those we served?
 - Have you seen any ways to apply the gospel of Jesus Christ to the scenarios in which we served?
 - c) What have you learned about ministry?
 - How did you grow in understanding unity in ministry, teamwork, servanthood, teamwork, personalities, unity, etc.?
- This conversation will take place after the trip and is an opportunity for honest feedback. It will factor in peer assessments, leader assessments and your own journal entries. Please come prepared to discuss these.

GRADING SUMMARY

The student will receive a grade based upon the following criteria:

Textbook.....	20%
Journal.....	20%
Analysis/Synthesis.....	20%
<u>Instructor & Peer Evaluations.....</u>	<u>40%</u>
TOTAL:	100%



Outreach Mission Practicum 2024 — Ministry Descriptions Sampler

NOTE: some of these are yet to be finalized and may not become part of the final schedule, and there is other possible partnerships that may form yet and be added to the final schedule

Adeara

The mission of Adeara is to provide women with long term care in a residential centre through hope, healing and restoration. In part, they provide funding for the ongoing work of Adeara's addition recovery programs through the "More Than a Fad" thrift store. We will provide hands on support for the organization in serving there. We will also get to hear from those that at Adeara about the services and support they provide.

Christar & Temple Visits

In addition to international missions, Christar works with new immigrants to Canada. Part of the work that they do includes ESL (English as a Second Language) classes. We will have the opportunity to hear more from Christar about their work, and interact with the ESL classes they teach. Last year we participated in a scavenger hunt activity at West Edmonton Mall with some of the international people that Christar works with. Together with Christar, we may visit Sikh and Hindu temples, as well as an Islamic Mosque, to provide firsthand experience with some of the most prolific world religions.

Hope Mission

A not-for-profit Christian social care agency caring for impoverished and homeless men, women and children in Alberta. We will assist in the provision of meals for the homeless and hungry. We may also receive a tour of their addictions centre if scheduling allows.

The Mustard Seed

A Christian organization focused on providing for the basic needs of those experiencing homelessness and poverty in the cities in which they operate. We will have the opportunity to assist in the provision of meals as we serve with The Mustard Seed in Edmonton.

The Refuge Mission Foundation

The Refuge Mission Foundation is investing heavily into the lives of people living in poverty, addiction, and homelessness in the Inner City of Edmonton. The aim is to meet their immediate physical needs and provide the opportunity to hear the life changing message that Jesus Christ brings to the world and to our lives. We will be meeting, and working, with The Refuge Mission Foundation as they aim to serve the most vulnerable in their community.

Old Strathcona Street Mission

There are roughly 2,700 persons experiencing chronic homelessness in Edmonton (plus many experiencing "transitional" homelessness). These people face challenges involving health, addictions, mental health, or violence. Those experiencing chronic homelessness need much more support to exit homelessness because of the complexity of their challenges and it is this group of people our organization seeks to support (Current State of Homeless in Edmonton, 2022). We will send out OMP students with this Mission in groups of 1 or 2 at most.

Youth Unlimited

We will receive a presentation on the YFC ministry in Edmonton and spend time at one of central Edmonton's youth drop-in centres.

November 2023

Nipawin Bible College
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Phone: 306.862.5095



Dear _____,

I have the opportunity to be part of a missions opportunity this year at NBC.

From January 4-12, 2024, the Nipawin Bible College junior class will take part in the *Outreach Ministry Practicum* (OMP) which is a core element of my second year. OMP provides an opportunity to work alongside and serve with many established ministries in the city of Edmonton. The exposure to different cultural, economic, and religious realities will expand my perspective and continue to clarify God's calling on my life to be part of the Great Commission. I've been told this trip will be greatly stretching, uncomfortable, and a way that God grows me in trusting and seeking Him.

As a team member I'm being asked to establish a prayer team, and to raise \$500 to cover the trip expenses. Any additional funds the team has after covering expenses will be given as a donation to the ministries we are serving! I would love to talk to you further about this ministry opportunity and would be grateful for any way you'd partner with me for this trip.



Thank you!

From the Team Leader

Last year was the first time we took students on OMP to Edmonton. What a good and difficult week. Students' eyes were opened to people's need for Christ. There was opportunity to grow in compassion, and wrestle through realities of brokenness that we know can only be ultimately addressed by our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

I'd invite you to partner with this student by committing to pray for them. Second, would you consider being part of their financial support team? Phil 4:16-18 reminds us that the one who goes, the one who prays, and the one who gives share in the fruit of the ministry. I am delighted to take these students again, and to watch the Lord grow them in more ways than we can even ask or imagine.

If you choose to help financially, we ask that you make your cheque payable to "Nipawin Bible College" and designate it for "OMP." Donations are income tax deductible, but **please DO NOT put the student's name on cheques**. You may add a sticky note to indicate the student on whose behalf you are donating. Alternately, e-transfers can be sent to giving@nipawin.org, again, with the appropriate notes so we know what it is for.



Serving together,

Jason Elford, NBC President



Outreach Mission Practicum - Evaluations

Nipawin Bible College

Names: Evaluation for: _____

Evaluation completed by: _____

Instructions: I realize that you may not have spent much time with the person you are evaluating, but please fill out this form to the best of your knowledge. Be objective, fair and honest. Please return completed forms to Mr. Elford by 5pm of the syllabus due date.

Confidentiality: The results of this evaluation will be kept confidential; the person evaluated will be given a summary of their scores, based on an average of all evaluations. Therefore it is also expected and assumed that you will keep confidential whom you are evaluating.

A. Please evaluate the team member in the following areas:

• Ability to get along with peers	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure
• Sensitivity to the needs of others	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure
• Tactfulness	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure
• Promptness and readiness for scheduled meetings and tasks	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure
• Attitude toward leadership	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure
• Ability to adapt to the changing situations and demands of the work	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure
• Enthusiasm for the work	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 unsure

poor/weak >> good/strong

B. Please evaluate the team member in the following areas using a “sliding” scale. If the team member strongly resembles the description on the left, score closer to the “3” on the left side of the “0”. If they strongly resemble the description on the right, score closer to the “-3” on the right side of the “0”.

<p><i>Personal Integrity</i> Clearly seeks to abide by boundaries and expectations set by leadership.</p>	<p>3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3</p>	<p>Stays within boundaries when it serves their interests; struggles with authority.</p>
<p><i>Group Support</i> Shows interest in meeting the needs of all team members. Demonstrates a willingness to contribute to the group and the tasks at hand.</p>	<p>3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3</p>	<p>Shows interest in own needs and/or needs of an inner circle rather than the needs of the group.</p>
<p><i>Teachability</i> Demonstrates a willingness to learn, and to consider another perspective or opinion. Demonstrates a willingness to adapt as necessary to new situations. Willing to accept correction.</p>	<p>3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3</p>	<p>Demonstrates an unwillingness to learn, and to consider another perspective or opinion; demonstrates an unwillingness to adapt to new situations/ resistant to change; actively or passively resistant to correction.</p>

C. Please note what you consider the team member’s strengths or positive accomplishments on our trip.

D. In what areas did the team member demonstrate weakness or room to grow and develop? (use back if needed)



Outreach Mission Practicum

My Commitment

I, _____ commit to the following:

General Ministry

- 1. To be spiritually prepared.**
 - a. Be in the Word every day.
 - b. Be ready to love, serve, and find Jesus' heart for ministry.
 - c. We will be going to some places of deep brokenness and great oppression. Jesus met with these people. They need Him just like you do. Read from the Gospels to see Jesus' focus and how He related with people.
- 2. To be proactive in support raising** — Fundraising is often a significant element to ministry and engaging prayer supporters is critical. Students will take initiative in delivering support letters (provided by NBC), making presentations at their church and/or Bible study, answering questions, following up with possible supporters, updating supporters, and issuing thank-you cards after the trip. *Fundraising deadline is Tuesday January 2, 2024.* If the goal is not met, all team members may be required to contact 3-5 additional potential supporters.
- 3. To maintain focus.** Observe, learn, serve. Entertainment is not a need. You may be asked to put your phone away at times.
- 4. To make team unity a priority** — Think of others BEFORE yourself. Whining and complaining during ministry is very inappropriate. Our focus is to be on the needs of our team and on the needs of those we meet. For this intense time, we come last.
- 5. To be on time** — This shows respect for teammates. Everyone needs to sacrifice to be on time, not just some.

Working in the Inner City

Recognize that our exposure and engagement with these ministries does not mean undiscerning endorsement of every aspect of how the ministry is run. That said, as guests, with much to learn by way of serving the least of these, we will come alongside each of these ministries with this heart:

- 1. To respect ministry leadership** — by remembering that you are a temporary guest, an assistant or observer to the ministry. We do not know better. They make mistakes, but they also have far more experience than we do. You do not have to have all the answers to share Jesus with someone. Seek to prayerfully live out your faith with humility.
- 2. To respect the needy** — It is an honour to serve fellow creations of God. Apart from God's grace, we would be in their shoes. They need a helping hand from someone and we can do that.

3. **To respect boundaries** — Boundaries are for your protection and set down by those with an understanding of why they are there. Be wise enough to know when you are out of your element and need to depend on the wisdom of others.
- a. Geographical – No alleys, off the beaten path – never (unless with NBC staff leader approval).
 - b. Numbers – Always stay with at least one other member of the group.
 - c. Gender – Work with your gender primarily.
 - d. Friendships – Remember you are there for only a short time. Don't promise too much or have them attach to you too much.
 - e. Anonymity
 - First name only, never give out your address/phone/email, etc.
 - Guide inquirers/contacts to ministry site staff, including mail, phone, email, etc.
 - You are not indispensable.
 - You are highly susceptible to being conned, by some who make a living at it.
 - This applies to ministry staff too as some are former ministry recipients in rehab.

My Plan for Letter Distribution

Student's Name: _____.

Number of additional letters I need from NBC _____.

Will talk to pastor or board member about this trip: **Yes / No** (*circle your response*)

