# RD 700 EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION: MASTER OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

*Program Coordinator: Jason Mills, PhD* | *jmills@briercrest.ca* | 306.801.4720 (office)

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION

This course is an extended internship under the direction of a church or para-church supervisor that is designed to further the development of the skills and knowledge necessary for effective ministry. Experiential Integration (EI) is generally three to twelve months in duration, depending upon the number of hours per week students can devote to the ministry. The minimum requirement is three months (12 weeks or 300 hours). Some students choose to complete EI over a longer period while working or studying part-time. Though EI is non-credit, there is a one-time fee of $150 for processing, registration and supervision.

Prerequisites:

- Acceptance into the MCM Program
- Successful completion of 21 credit hours or approval from the Program Coordinator.

## EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION REQUIREMENTS

### A. Experiential Integration Proposal and Form

Your proposal should focus on the primary emphasis of your EI (i.e., Pastoral, Youth, Worship Leadership, etc.). Begin with a personal list of the activities you would like to experience during this EI. Provide this list to your Experiential Integration Supervisor. Ask your supervisor to form her/his own list of what they would like to see accomplished in the EI.

1. Meet with your Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) and synthesize both lists into a first draft of your "Experiential Integration Proposal". This should be a draft with which you both can agree and eventually sign.
2. Formulate a finished copy of your Experiential Integration Proposal by stating your proposed experiences as ***specific and measurable goals***. Begin with an opening paragraph that notes the place, organization name, and dates of the EI. In this paragraph also include the name of your EI supervisor/mentor, and her/his title and role at the institution. Having completed the introductory paragraph, organize your specific activities under the following general headings (you may use bullet form as illustrated in the example on pages 5-9 of this syllabus).
   *a.* ***Leadership***: These are activities that are "Big Picture" in nature. You should articulate in what specific areas you will lead, and what that leadership entails.

(e.g., "I will lead a two-week VBS. Included in this will be volunteer recruitment, leadership training that will occur two Sundays prior to the start-date…").

*b.* ***Administration***: These are activities that are "detail" oriented. Often these will be the activities necessary to get the job done. (e.g., "Recruitment of VBS personnel will include posters, bulletin announcements, pulpit announcements, phone calls…").

*c.* ***Communication***: These are activities that involve teaching, preaching, worship leading, etc. (e.g., "Teaching two training sessions of VBS volunteers will include researching relevant materials, presenting information and ideas, providing for brain-storming…")

*d.* ***Counselling***: These are activities that involve personal contact with people. They will be both proactive and reactive. (e.g., "I will meet with my key leaders once per week for coffee in the month prior to the start-date. I will be available for listening and problem solving during the two-week VBS.")

*e.* ***Mentoring / Accountability***: State your goal to meet weekly or bi-weekly with your Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) for the purpose of debriefing and planning (e.g., "I will meet with Pastor Ed once per week in order to debrief the prior week's activities [successes, failures, problem solving, etc.], and to prepare for the coming week's activities [brainstorming, planning, anticipating problems, etc.]"). These scheduled meetings should be used as occasions to discuss the ingredients of your weekly journals, such as spiritual formation, problem solving, goals, readings, etc. *Under this heading, you should also include the list of materials (e.g., books, blog posts, sermons to listen to, videos to watch, etc.) that your supervisor assigned to you that directly relate to your EI context (i.e., youth, camp, pastoral, etc.)*. Make a goal that states the bibliographic information of the materials, and that you will be prepared to discuss them with your supervisor during a specified period of your EI. Further instructions for these readings can be found under the "journal" assignment.

3. Submit your EI Proposal, in correct BCS format, to your Briercrest Faculty Supervisor (FS). Use the most current Chicago-Style Format Guide. Your FS will either approve it or return it for revisions. If it is returned to you for revisions, you will need to resubmit your Internship Proposal until it is approved.

4. Once your Experiential Integration Proposal is approved, you will need to complete the "Experiential Integration Application Form" (at the end of this syllabus) and submit it to your Faculty Supervisor (FS). You and your Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) will need to sign it. Your FS must be your program coordinator, unless other arrangements are made with your program coordinator. The EI Form will then be

forwarded on to the Academic Services Office, and at that point in time, you will be registered for the course.

B. Journal

Due: The first submission of the student's weekly journal will be submitted two weeks following the start date and then monthly for the duration of the EI. At the conclusion of the EI the entire journal will be submitted.

The student will maintain an ***Experiential Integration Ministry Journal*** for the duration of the experience. It should be typed and indicate the ***time period*** being covered. This journal should include the following information, arranged under the following headings:

1. Participation: List the ministry activities or other activities in which you were involved during the week.
2. Reflection: Explain what you have learned through your ministry involvement this week (i.e., insights gained, skill development, etc.).
3. Problem Solving: Describe any problems you may have encountered during the week and how you handled them.
4. Prayer/Bible Study/Spiritual Development: Relate how the Lord used His Word to influence your ministry over the week. What specifically have you been praying for with regard to your ministry this week, and what answers to prayer have you seen?
5. Personal Goals: With rationale, list some specific and measurable goals you have for your ministry in the coming week. Discuss the extent to which you achieved goals from prior weeks.
6. Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) Interaction: Describe your interaction with your EIS during the week. Include discussion of assigned developmental materials (see mentoring/accountability above).
7. Developmental Materials: Provide the dates, time invested, material covered during this time period, and your reflections on the material, noting their application to your current ministry experiences. Note any significant quotes and questions related to the materials.
8. Time Investment: Show a log of time invested. Include the when, where and who aspects.
9. Provide outlines and manuscripts of teaching sessions.

C. Experiential Integration Reflection
Due: At the conclusion of the EI.

At the conclusion of the EI the student will write an 1800 to 2000-word reflection paper addressing the following areas relating to the EI:

1. An analysis of the student's personal strengths and weaknesses, as discovered and developed during the EI.
2. Areas of growth and development experienced during the EI (from the tasks outlined in the Experiential Integration Proposal).
3. Reflection upon the concrete ways the student's experience has deepened and broadened in a specific ministry setting.
4. An evaluation of the correlation between the student's relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, and his/her effectiveness in ministry.
5. A strategy for further development in reflective thinking and personal development in the areas of ministry skills in which he/she participated.
6. A summary of the impact of the Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) on the student's life and ministry.

Note: this reflection will serve as an artifact in your graduation portfolio.

D. Experiential Integration Supervisor's Evaluation (of the Student)
Due: At the conclusion of the EI.

Having reviewed the initial EI Proposal, the Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) will submit an evaluation of the student (pages 15-17 of this document). Any questions can be directed to the Program Coordinator at any of the contact choices at the beginning of this syllabus.

## E. Experiential Integration Proposal Example

Amanda Student, 1234

Prof. Dr. Blayne Banting

RD 700 Experiential Integration

1 September 2018

EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION PROPOSAL

During the summer of 2019 I will be involved in the "Here I Am" EI at Orrville Mennonite Church. During this EI, I am looking forward to testing my gifts in a safe environment and getting a glimpse of what life would be like with a career in ministry. My EIS is Gary Steiner, senior pastor of Orrville Mennonite Church. I will be primarily working with children and children's ministry programs during this EI, as well as the youth ministry outreach programs, planning events and developing relationships with the students who attend them.

**Leadership:** During the first half of the summer my leadership will be focused on the children's program and during the second half it will focus on the junior high and high school programs.

- From May 7 - June 24 I will be coordinating WINGS (the outreach program for children, 1st - 5th grade) that takes place on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 - 8:00. This will include overseeing planning for Bible lessons, crafts, and games and recruiting volunteers to help lead these activities. I will also lead prayer meetings for the WINGS staff and communicate with the children's parents about upcoming events.

- I will plan the WINGS retreat that will take place on June 9-10 at a local camp. This will include setting a schedule for the weekend, writing a letter/permission slip and

sending medical release forms to parents, communicating plans with the WINGS staff, recruiting volunteers to provide snacks/meals and a nurse to stay at the camp, communicating with camp staff, planning Bible lessons and games, and ordering t-shirts for the staff and children.

- June 25 - end of term I will be coordinating BreakAway (the junior high youth group, 6th - 8th grade) that takes place on Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00. It will include overseeing planning for Bible studies, service activities, and fellowship events. I will also lead meetings for the BreakAway staff and send out letters to parents about any upcoming events.

- From June 25 - end of term I will be brainstorming and planning unifying youth group events/activities for Footprints (the high school youth group) for the fall. The youth group's activities will be designed to integrate upcoming freshmen with the current Footprints youth in hopes of building unity and helping to give the freshmen a smooth transition into high school.

- I will be co-coordinating the Fabulous Family Fun Fireworks Festival with the other EI student for July 7. (The city of Orrville does fireworks for the 1st of July on the following Saturday and the church parking lot is a popular spot to sit and watch them and so our church sees this as a great opportunity for raising neighborhood awareness about our programs.) This will require me to be in touch with the other EI student, plan and organize food and activities for the event, and recruit volunteers to help with activities/serve food.

- I will co-plan a Sunday morning youth service with the other EI student. This service will take place sometime in July or August. It will require me to plan/meet with the other student, send letters to the kids/parents, organize order of service/music/Scripture, assign roles to the kids, and be in contact with the church secretary and worship committee.

- I will be preparing/teaching a four-week Bible study for the junior high/high school Sunday school. This will require me to select a book of the Bible to teach from, prepare the lessons and discussion questions, and plan any other special activities for the class.

- During the times that I am not leading WINGS (second half of the summer) and BreakAway (first half of the summer), I will be a committed volunteer on each of the

staffs to keep continuity in building relationships with the students and other volunteers. I will also be a committed volunteer for Footprints (high school youth group) the entire summer and will be a volunteer for Vacation Bible School (June 11-15).

**Administration:** My roles as coordinator for WINGS (May 7 - June 24) and then for BreakAway (June 25 - end of term) will require me to do a lot of administrative work.

- As the WINGS coordinator I am required to organize the evening and set up the church for Tuesday night activities. This will include making phone calls/sending emails to recruit volunteers for help with leading games/crafts/teaching Bible lessons/leading songs, typing up a schedule for the evening and giving it to the WINGS staff volunteers, contacting WINGS staff throughout the week through email/giving them written announcements at the end of each week letting them know what is coming up for the following week, setting up tables and chairs for the meal, putting the WINGS sign in the front lawn, making sure kids sign in as they enter the church, overseeing/leading activity transitions and announcement time during the evening.

- Planning the WINGS retreat requires me to recruit all retreat volunteers (people to provide food, a nurse, song leader, tractor driver), WINGS staff (to be cabin leaders, game leaders, drivers, etc.), and the camp staff (for use of certain equipment). I will also set a detailed schedule, type up and give letters/permission forms to kids, make phone calls to parents, and make announcements at WINGS and church.

- As the BreakAway coordinator I am required to plan Thursday night activities. This will include contacting BreakAway staff to let them know any details for the coming Thursday, making necessary contacts for service/fellowship nights, sending home written announcements for any special events, and setting up any equipment that may be needed for the night's activities.

**Communication:** My EI will require me to do some activities that involve teaching and preaching.

- On at least one occasion I will lead the Sunday morning children's story time. This will require me to prepare a story or object lesson that enhances the children's biblical knowledge.

- I will be the camp pastor for one week at a local camp. This will require me to prepare and share two Bible lessons/object lessons/testimonies each day at the large group gatherings. I may also lead a few small group sessions throughout the week.

- I will occasionally (at least one time for each group) teach a Bible lesson/share a testimony at WINGS, BreakAway, and Footprints.

- I will teach a four or five-week Bible study for the junior high/high school Sunday school class. This will include selecting a book of the Bible to study, preparing the lessons and discussion questions, and planning any other special activities for the class.

**Counselling:** My leadership responsibilities require a lot of personal contact with volunteers and staff.

- From May 7 - June 25 I will lead short prayer meetings with the WINGS staff after the Tuesday night WINGS activities. This will allow the staff to share successes and failures of the evening and prayer requests from the evening. I will also make sure that the staff has my contact information (phone number and email address) so that they can contact me during the week with any comments, questions, or concerns.

- On May 29 I will hold a short meeting after the WINGS activities for all staff who will be attending the WINGS retreat. I will give them a schedule which lists the times and activities for the whole weekend, talk about the purpose of the weekend, and make sure that everyone is comfortable with their role for the retreat. I will also ask for any questions or concerns at the meeting and let them know that I am available the following week (before the retreat) to answer any questions or listen to any concerns.

- From June 25 - end of the term I will lead BreakAway staff meetings following the BreakAway activities on Thursday nights. This will allow for staff to come together and brainstorm for upcoming events/activities, talk about successes and failures and share specific prayer requests from the evening. I will make sure that all members of the BreakAway staff have my contact information (phone number and email address) so that they can contact me throughout the week with any comments, questions, or concerns.

**Mentoring/Accountability:** I will have meetings with my EIS, Gary Steiner and with the support team (five church members) that the church set up for me.

- I will try to meet weekly (at least bi-weekly) with my EIS, Gary Steiner. In these meetings we will debrief the previous week's ministry events and talk about how to improve the next week's activities. We will also discuss upcoming events that I am planning and any problems that I am having with brainstorming, recruiting, etc. These meetings will give me an opportunity to receive advice and learn from someone who has experience with youth ministry.

- I will also meet biweekly with my support team on Sunday mornings. During these meetings I will have the opportunity to share what is on my heart, talk about concerns that I have with the various ministries, and ask any questions that I have concerning the internship. The support team is available to pray for me and provide me with guidance, council, encouragement, and constructive feedback.

- My EIS requires me to read the following books during my internship.

Creps, Earl. *Off-Road Disciplines: Spiritual Adventures of Missional Leaders*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2006.

Peterson, Eugene. *Working the Angles: The Shape of Pastoral Integrity.* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1987.

Stanley, Andy and Stuart Hall. *The Seven Checkpoints: Seven Principles Every Teenager Needs to Know.* New York, NY: Howard Books, 2001.

Stanley, Andy, Reggie Joiner, and Lane Jones. *Seven Practices of Effective Ministry.* Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2004.

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F. Forms
   1. Request for Experiential Integration Supervisor Approval
   2. BCS Experiential Integration Registration Form
   3. EI Supervisor's Evaluation

BRIERCREST SEMINARY

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## REQUEST FOR EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION SUPERVISOR APPROVAL

**Please check one** (secondary EIS by special arrangement only):

I intend to be: ☐ primary EIS ☐ secondary EIS

**Name of Experiential Integration Supervisor:**

_____

**Email address:** _____

**Name of student you wish to Supervise:** _____

**Church/Ministry Name:** _____

**Church/Ministry Office Address:**

Street/Box Number: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Office Phone:_____ Fax: _____

**Denominational Association** (if any): _____

**Educational Background:**

| College | Major | Years | Degree |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| Graduate Education | Major | Years | Degree |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| Post-Graduate Education (if any) | Major | Years | Degree |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Please briefly describe your previous Lay Ministry Experience:

| Where | Role | Dates |
|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Please briefly describe your previous Vocational Ministry Experience:

| Where | Role | Dates |
|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Please briefly describe your Non-Ministry Employment Experience:

| Where | Position Title | Dates |
|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Total years in lay ministry: _____ Total years in vocational ministry: _____ Age: _____

Describe any other ministry experience you have that might be relevant to serving as an EI supervisor.

Describe any other formal or informal training you have received that might be relevant to serving as an EI supervisor.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

This request must be received and approved by the Program Coordinator before the student can enroll in the Experiential Integration.

Please submit form to:

Briercrest Seminary Experiential Integration
Attn: Dr. Jason Mills
510 College Drive
Caronport, SK
S0H 0S0

Email: jmills@briercrest.ca

# RD 700 EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION: MASTER OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION REGISTRATION FORM

EI start date: _____

EI completion date: _____

## STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Credit hours completed before beginning EI: _____

Year of intended graduation: _____

## FACULTY SUPERVISOR (FS) INFORMATION

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

## EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION SUPERVISOR (EIS) INFORMATION

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

## CONTRACT STATEMENT

We, the undersigned, agree to the following:

A. We plan to work together to fulfill the contracted requirements of this agreement as specified in the EI Proposal. This proposal may be adjusted or amended by mutual agreement of the student and her/his Supervisor(s).
B. We have reviewed the relevant documents and understand the purposes of the EI.
C. The supervisor(s) will provide the student with supervision and guidance so her/his personal development and skills will be enhanced by the EI.
D. The supervisor(s) will meet regularly with the student for encouragement, reflection, and accountability.
E. This EI may be terminated if two or more parties (Student, Faculty Supervisor, Experiential Integration Supervisor, Program Coordinator) agree to the same.
F. The Experiential Integration Supervisor (EIS) agrees to complete the EI Supervisor's Evaluation (if applicable) and to submit it to the Faculty Supervisor prior to the deadline (mm/dd/yyyy): _____.
G. The Student agrees to fulfill the requirements as outlined in his or her EI Proposal.
H. The Program Coordinator will provide a copy to the Academic Services office and will ensure that the Faculty Supervisor, Experiential Integration Supervisor, and Student have received copies.

*EI Student: _____ Date: _____

*EI Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

Program Coordinator: _____ Date: _____

**Make sure these two are signed before submitting this registration form*

All assignments and evaluations should be submitted electronically to the Faculty Supervisor (FS).

# RD 700 EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION: MASTER OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

EXPERIENTIAL INTEGRATION SUPERVISOR'S EVALUATION OF STUDENT

Student's Name: _____ EI Dates: _____

Name of EI Supervisor: _____

Overall Evaluation

| | | | Weak Strong | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. | Personal Habits (Please circle) | | | |
| | 1. | Appropriate dress, hygiene | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 2. | Organizes time well | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 3. | Promptness/punctuality | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| B. | Relationships | | | |
| | 1. | Shows genuine compassion | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 2. | Communicates well | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 3. | Expresses ideas tactfully | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 4. | Offers criticism constructively | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 5. | Receives criticism well | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 6. | Respects others' ideas | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 7. | Positive attitude towards those in authority | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 8. | Positive attitude to those ministering to | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| C. | Task Performance | | | |
| | 1. | Covered areas of responsibility well | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 2. | Resourceful in planning | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 3. | Enthusiasm inspires others | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| | 4. | Adaptable to new environment | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5. | Solves problems effectively | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| 6. | Sensitive to spiritual matters | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| 7. | Demonstrates leadership qualities | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |
| 8. | Maintains confidentiality | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | N/A |

D. What are some of your student's strengths and weaknesses in relation to his/her vocational goals?

E. Based on these observations, what type of ministry do you think the student is best suited for, and why?

F. What are some specific growth steps that would help him/her become more effective?

G. Please comment on your student's initiative, enthusiasm and desire to excel in fulfilling the terms of the EI proposal & contract.

H. Based on the initial EI Proposal & Contract, please indicate whether you feel the student should receive a Pass or Fail, based on his/her performance, attitude, and contributions to the ministry under your leadership.

Pass: _____ Fail: _____

EI Supervisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Thank you for your valuable input into this student's life.*

Please email this completed evaluation to:

jmills@briercrest.ca
Dr. Jason Mills
Briercrest College and Seminary
510 College Drive
Caronport, SK S0H 0S0
Canada