Summary:
The theological mentor engages supervised ministry student interns in critical reflection on the integration of their theological training and ministry as experienced in the internship. The purpose of the internship is for students to gain firsthand experience in the nature, practice and context of ministry while serving in approved internship sites under the supervision of a qualified supervisor, and to reflect on that experience with the guidance of a trained theological mentor.

The internship is guided by a Learning Covenant that the student creates in collaboration with the ministry supervisor. In some cases where a theologically trained supervisor is not available at the internship site, a student may also be assigned a theological mentor to provide ongoing theological reflection. The internship undergoes a collaborative assessment twice a year, once at the end of the first semester and once at the end of the year. This collaborative assessment is guided by the Learning Covenant and includes the student's written self-assessment as well as written observations from the supervisor and theological mentor.

The theological mentor is someone who has spent considerable time being formed by God in the same or similar type of ministry, and is thus able to help the student begin integrating their practice with their theological education. Essentially, theological reflection means exploring one's experience in dialogue with the wisdom of the Christian heritage for the purpose of living into an integration of new truth and meaning in one's emerging (professional) identity. It is an aspect of formation aimed to produce a "reflective practitioner" of Christian ministry.

Responsibilities:
- Review, discuss with student, and sign the Learning Covenant before the due date in May.
- During the course of the internship, meet with student intern for at least one hour a week to guide and engage the intern in critical theological reflection.
- In conversation with the student intern, prepare and submit to the Director of Supervised Ministries two brief written reports summarizing: core themes from weekly meetings; the intern’s capacity to reflect theologically on the nature, practice and context of ministry; and any other observations pertaining to the intern’s competencies and readiness for ministry. Report guidelines are provided by the Office of Supervised Ministries. Reports are due at the end of each semester.
- Communicate as needed with the Director of Supervised Ministries regarding the intern’s performance.
- Be familiar with the Supervised Ministry program and YDS academic calendar.
- Be familiar with the intern’s Learning Covenant and Ministry Portfolio.
- Participate in any training as required by the Office of Supervised Ministries.
Benefits (some of these might not be accessible by mentors at a distance):

- Free auditing of YDS courses
- Reduced tuition for YDS Summer Study
- Yale library privileges
- Membership in the Ministry Resource Center
- Faculty rate for Payne Whitney Gym membership
- Colleague support gatherings organized by the Office of Supervised Ministries
- Regular communication from the Office of Supervised Ministries about continuing education opportunities and other special events on campus.
- 10% discount at YDS bookstore

Required Education and Experience: Graduate degree in theological or ministerial studies, experience in a related profession, and experience teaching, supervising or working with graduate-level students. No history of professional misconduct. At least one year in current position and three years experience beyond degree.

Core Values of Supervised Ministry

- Student-Centered
- Contextual Education
- Theological Reflection/Imagination
- Competency Development
- Mentorship/Apprenticeship
- Peer Learning and Support