

The Offices of Supervised Ministries and Professional Formation

The internship program at Yale Divinity School prepares degree candidates for leadership in the church and the world by engaging them in student-centered experiential learning and theological reflection on the nature, practice and context of ministry and service. It also provides a foundation and inspiration for continuing theological reflection, ongoing discernment, and lifelong learning.

These days, the shape of ministry takes many forms and is located in surprising places. YDS takes a student-centered approach to contextual learning. The student leads the process of exploration and selection of a ministry site. This allows each student to create individualized internships that prepare them uniquely for the ministry to which they are drawn, subject to office approval.

The Rev. Jennifer Davis is the Director of Supervised Ministries. She is the primary contact for students who desire to work within a church, school, or hospital setting. In our ongoing effort to serve the growing number of students who are primarily interested in nonprofit leadership, Alison Cunningham is the Director of Professional Formation, Alison, who joins us after 20 years as CEO of Columbus House in New Haven, is the primary contact for students who are interested in justice work or internships set in the nonprofit world. Alison and Jenny partner with local churches, nonprofits, and other agencies to give divinity school students the best possible learning environment and real-world experience.

There are three essential components to every internship in at Yale Divinity School.

1. 370 hours of meaningful work
2. Professional Mentoring: A supervisor qualified to oversee and mentor the student's work, and to provide weekly theological reflection. (Much of the time it is one and same person, but can be two separate individuals.)
3. Weekly meetings with a group of peer interns in a setting where they can safely explore their work and mentoring experiences as spiritual and professional formation. (Totaling 30 hours)

Other important information:

- The internship functions as an academic course that receives 6 semester credits (3 each semester starting in September, or 6 for the summer).
- Credit for one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) can transfer as 6 elective credit hours and will fulfill the MDiv degree internship requirement.
- YDS provides \$5,000 financial aid to students doing an internship, and \$4,000 for CPE.
- Students may choose an internship in one of two ways: part-time during the 2nd or 3rd year or full-time during the summers following the 1st or 2nd year. Summer internships may be limited to 20 students.

YDS Internships

- Students can receive elective credit for up to 15 hours of internship credit. Financial aid is available for the first internship and CPE.

For parish internship/CPE information, contact Rev. Jenny Davis, Director of Supervised Ministries, Jennifer.s.davis@yale.edu, 203-436-5703.

For non-profit internship information, contact Alison Cunningham, Director of Professional Formation, Alison.cunningham@yale.edu, 203-432-5330.

YDS Internships

There are three ways to fulfill the internship requirement at YDS: Part-time internship during the academic year, full-time summer internship, or CPE unit at an ACPE approved site. Below is a break-down of information for each.

	Part-Time Internship with Practicum	Summer Ministry Intensive with Online Practicum	CPE
Brief Description	Students select from churches, campus ministries, non-profits, schools and other sites that meet the broad description of ministry. Interns do work at the same time as participating in traditional coursework.	A summer intensive program, usually in a nonprofit. Interns locate (with guidance) a community agency or other setting for full-time summer placement. Interns have a 2-day on-campus class in May and a virtual 2-hr weekly practicum.	A formal training program in providing pastoral care in institutional settings, typically hospitals, but also nursing homes, prisons or hospice settings. Usually 10 weeks in summer. "Extended" units are offered part-time while doing traditional coursework.
Geographic Locations	Most sites are in CT. A handful are in NY and MA. Commuting students often select sites close to home.	Students locate sites, which must be approved by OSM. Sites could be anywhere, but student <i>must have</i> capability for reliable weekly online video-conferencing.	Sites approved by ACPE anywhere in the US or Canada.
Assignments	Practicum exercises, case studies.	Minimal reading, web posts, weekly online discussions.	Verbatims; otherwise, depends on the program.
Credit – 15 max of SM	6 elective credits (non Area)	6 elective credits (non Area)	6 transfer credits
Tuition	Included in block tuition.	Summer tuition for 6 hrs; YDS scholarship may apply.	Set by site. In the neighborhood of \$700.
Stipend – one SM and one CPE	\$4,500—paid semi-monthly from September through April.	\$4,500—paid in installments in June and July.	Work-study funds of \$4000 are available through the business office. Students must apply through OSM for funding <i>before</i> starting CPE
Types of sites	Parish, campus ministry & college chaplaincy, schools, non-profits, clinical, prison, etc.	Same as part-time sites, but must have active summer programs. Parish sites are not recommended.	Clinical sites, hospice, prison, a few others. See acpe.edu
How are sites matched with students?	Method 1. OSM has a pool of sites from which some apply for an intern. Students choose from those (with OSM input) where they want to interview. Sites conduct interviews and offer positions. Method 2. Student identifies desired site, discusses potential with person who would supervise, works with OSM to make arrangements.	Students use their contacts to identify some sites where they would like to intern. OSM can advise and has selected resources. OSM approves a site and works with student to finalize arrangements.	Sites and information are on www.acpe.edu . Students select their own sites, apply, interview—entirely independent of YDS . Director of Supervised Ministries is available for consultation. Stipend is arranged after student is accepted by CPE program.
Hours	400 hours: 30 in Practicum, 370 at site over 2 semesters (roughly 15 hrs/wk)	400 hours: 12 on campus in May, 18 online, 370 at site between June 1 and August 8	Usually 400 total. Some end up being more.
Class time	1.5 hours a week; total of 30 hours; Thursday 4-5:30	12 hrs at YDS in May, then 2 hours for 9 weeks	Depends on the site

YDS Internships

Offered	Fall plus Spring	Summer	Summer or academic year
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