Internship Outcomes  
Syllabus for COM 592  
Keith Corso

Internships at Westminster are supervised work experiences related to a student's major or vocational interest area for which the student earns academic credit through an internship course in which the student is enrolled concurrent to the work experience. Westminster internships aim to produce the following outcomes through the student's internship experience.

Apply academic knowledge in a professional setting  
The primary goal of an internship is to provide the student with the opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the classroom to solve practical real-world problems in a professional setting.

Develop professionally relevant competencies and relationships in a professional setting  
The student works together with the site supervisor and faculty instructor to develop a learning agreement. The learning agreement specifies how the student plans to sharpen and develop new knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to serve effectively in a professional setting. Relationships with the site supervisor and other professionals add to the student's professional network.

Gain exposure to a professional field and an understanding of professional etiquette  
The student is able to learn from observing the professional behavior of the site supervisor and other employees at the site, as well as through interaction with customers or clients. The student also practices proper business etiquette while fulfilling his or her internship responsibilities.

Observe and begin to understand a professional organizational culture  
The student begins to understand the dynamics of an organization's culture through observing and reflecting on how decisions are made, how work is structured, how power is shared, how colleagues interact, how an organization's mission/vision are implemented, and to what degree accountability and feedback are present in the organization.

Evaluate one's own performance in light of one's expressed goals and learning outcomes  
Self-directed learning is one component of the learning agreement or learning plan each student completes at the beginning of the semester. The student sets goals for what he or she would like to learn, and will measure progress against those goals. The intern should be able to assess to what degree he or she was able to meet the expressed goals and learning outcomes, and identify new areas for

Compare and contrast one's self-perception to the professional perception of the site supervisor  
The internship provides an opportunity for the student to receive professional feedback through ongoing individual meetings with the supervisor and an evaluation at the end of the internship experience. These opportunities provide
objective feedback to help the student examine him or herself from another vantage point. The student is then able to reflect critically on the comparisons and differences in perception of the intern’s work.

**Clarify one’s calling through reflection on the internship experience**

The internship experience allows the student to put his or her gifts to practical use in preparation for a life of leadership and service in a global society. The student is able to reflect on the internship experience and make connections between what the student understands about his or her giftedness, and the needs of the profession the student is exploring through the internship experience.

**Critically evaluate the internship experience as an exemplar for the field**

The student is able to evaluate critically to what extent the internship experience reflects the broad range of experiences available in the professional field(s) most relevant to the internship (skills / knowledge required to perform assigned tasks, customer base, work place culture, size of the organization, scope of services/product offerings, etc.). The student is able to differentiate one’s skills, personality and gifts in relation to the expectations and demands of the internship role and environment.

**Determination of Final Grade.**

This field experience/internship is an S/U graded experience. The instructor will utilize the on-site supervisor’s report to determine the grade in the course.

In the event the report is not submitted in a timely fashion, a grade of I (Incomplete) will be entered by the grade submission deadline. Once the report is submitted and reviewed, the grade will be changed to the appropriate S or U.