

MATUL Urban Ministry Experience Form

Urban Ministry Experience (no more than 1 page, single-spaced)

Living, learning and working in informal settlements exposes you to the incredible resilience and resourcefulness of people who have learned to respond in creative ways to the indifference of the state. At the same time, these communities are intense and crowded, with no master plan and oftentimes few of the amenities of home. To thrive in such circumstances requires physical health, spiritual maturity, and emotional stability. One must also be able to adapt to radically different circumstances, learn a second language, persist in the face of difficulty and failure, and build self-sustaining relationships across differences of culture and social class using a variety of empathy and social skills (below).

Empathy skills

- Understanding others: recognizing other's emotions through non-verbal and verbal cues.
- Developing others: helping others to grow and accomplish their goals.
- Service orientation: desire to help others.
- Political awareness: recognizing the operations of power and politics.

Social skills

- Influence: ability to communicate a message so that people will change their behaviors and thoughts.
- Collaboration: ability to coordinate with and respond to others.
- Teamwork: ability to form effective working relationships with others.
- Conflict management: ability to face conflict and find a solution that brings opposing parties positive outcomes

In one page or less, describe any relevant "urban ministry experience" where you have made progress in developing any of the above-listed competencies. Relevant experiences might include foreign language learning, domestic service learning in poor urban communities, study abroad within a resource-poor context, urban field learning, ministry teams, various work experiences, cell church development, student leadership positions, project management, living in intentional Christian community, evangelistic outreach, and the like.