

ASSESSMENT PLAN

INTRODUCTION

It has been said that character is who you are when no one is looking. Alaska Bible College is committed to training servants who lead with Christlike character. It has been doing this for more than 55 years! The board, administration, and faculty of Alaska Bible College believe that character should be first and foremost Christlike. The curriculum and student life at ABC encourage every student to grow in love with the Lord, His Word, and His church. Nestled in the center of beautiful Palmer, Alaska, surrounded by mountain landscapes second to none in the world, students are daily encouraged to worship the God who loves them and longs for them to live intimately with Him.

ABC is the only accredited, four-year Bible college in the state of Alaska! ABC provides high-quality, biblical, theological, and ministry-based education that prepares students to serve the Lord with integrity for the rest of their life. Graduates of Alaska Bible College join a long list of servant leaders who after being trained with Christlike character at ABC are leading with integrity in full-time ministry on the mission field, in the local church, or in the vocation that God has provided.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALASKA BIBLE COLLEGE

Throughout the state of Alaska, there were small groups of believers with no trained pastor and many villages with no gospel witness. The need for trained Christian workers had long been apparent to Rev. Vincent Joy, who founded Central Alaska Missions in 1936. For many years Rev. Joy had dreamed of a Bible college to train Alaskans who would in turn reach Alaskans. His dream took shape in 1966 when the construction of Alaska Bible College began.

Rev. Joy died in 1966 before the new college was opened. Upon completion, the main building was named Joy Hall in honor of this man who had a vision for addressing the spiritual needs of Alaskans. The college opened its doors on September 13, 1966, under the leadership of Dr. Bob Lee. In 1971 Central Alaska Missions merged with Far Eastern Gospel Crusade and the merged mission later changed its name to SEND International. In 1974 Alaska Bible College began the rigorous process of pursuing accreditation with the American Association of Bible Colleges (now Association of Biblical Higher Education).

In 1978 Don Campbell became the college's second President. Under Rev. Campbell the college continued to pursue the accreditation process, receiving institutional accreditation from the ABHE in 1982. Dr. Gene Mayhew became the third President of the college in 1983. Under his tenure, the Ball Library Center was nearly completed.

Dr. Gary J. Ridley, Sr. was appointed Interim President in 1987 and became the fourth President in 1988. During his tenure, the Library Center was completed and the Married Student Housing project was initiated and nearly completed.

Dr. Steven Hostetter was appointed Interim President in 1996 and became the fifth President in 1997. Under his leadership, the Murdock Campus Center, which housed a gymnasium, student lounge, and fitness center, was completed.

He led the college until 2005. At that point, Gary Ridley became Interim President for a year while waiting on an appointee from the Board. When problems arose that made the Board question their decision, the Presidential search was in force again, and Dr. Ridley served another year as Interim President. After Dr. Ridley's tenure, Gary Willford accepted the interim position as President for the 2007-2008 school year.

Nick Ringger was appointed as the sixth President in June of 2008. A long-term goal of the college was to become a separate organization from SEND International to enhance the college's ministry in Alaska. In 1994 a separate Board was appointed and in 1996 a subsidiary corporation of SEND International was created to operate the college. In 2010 the college became an independent organization.

In 2011, the Board of Alaska Bible College made the difficult decision to move the main campus location to Palmer, Alaska. Purchasing the present building from the defunct Matanuska Christian School, which was once the headquarters of the Matanuska Electric Association. Over the next several years, ABC operated in both Glennallen and Palmer locations, making the final move in 2014 and closing down the Glennallen campus.

At the end of Nick Ringger's tenure as President in 2014, the board looked to the college's first president, Bob Lee, to serve as Interim President until the summer of 2015 when ABC installed Rev. David Ley as the seventh and current President of the College.

Historically, Alaska Bible College has offered multiple degrees and certificates in the areas of Biblical Studies and Christian ministry. ABC currently offers a one-year Bible Certificate, a two-year Bible and Ministry Certificate, a two-year Associate of Arts degree, and a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry. Students in the B.A. program may select an emphasis in Children's, Student, or Women's Discipleship Ministry, Intercultural Ministry, New Testament Studies, New Testament Greek, Old Testament Studies, Pastoral Studies, Philosophy of Religion, Theology, or Worship Arts.

In 2020, Alaska Bible College expanded its degree offerings to add a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. As this degree program is being rolled out over a four-year process, ABC seeks all the necessary accreditation and authorizations to have the graduates seek state teaching licenses.

Alaska Bible College has a unique opportunity to minister to the leadership needs of the churches of Alaska. ABC is the only accredited, four-year Bible college in Alaska. For over 50 years the college has continued the ministry of training Alaskans to reach Alaskans.

ALASKA BIBLE COLLEGE VISION, MISSION, STRATEGY, AND VALUES

Vision Statement: Following Acts 1:8, Alaska Bible College equips and empowers people to serve Christ and His Church in local communities, states, regions, and globally through innovative academic experiences.

Mission Statement: Alaska Bible College exists to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ and extend His Church by Biblically training believers to be servants who lead with Christlike character.

Mission Strategy:

In accordance with the mandate of Matthew 28:19-20 and 2 Timothy 2:2, the College seeks to train servants who lead with Christlike character by...

- Nurturing students in Bible-based, academic programs that solidify their Christian worldview;
- Challenging students to deepen their relationship with God;
- Mentoring students to faithfully utilize their spiritual gifts in culturally-relevant ministries within the church community.

Motto: Becoming servants who lead with Christlike character

Core Values:

Following Jesus Christ as the example of servant leadership, Alaska Bible College seeks to value what He values. Therefore, Alaska Bible College is committed to the following five core values:

Grounded in Scripture – Remaining true to the Word of God as the supreme and final authority for all things pertaining to faith and practice, ABC seeks to adhere faithfully to the Word of God and ABC's doctrinal position.

Driven by Purpose – Training believers to be servants who lead with Christlike character, ABC seeks to conform all activities to the Mission Statement and Mission Strategy.

Valuing People – Upholding the dignity and worth of people as God values them and created them in His image, ABC makes nurturing healthy relationships and treating people with respect a priority.

Glorifying God – Pursuing excellence in our work and ministry—because God in His essence is goodness, perfection, and excellence—ABC seeks to do all things with excellence, striving toward His perfection.

Transforming Lives – Connecting what is taught both in and out of the classroom with real life, ABC seeks, as the proper goal of all teaching: the changed lives of students.

Institutional Academic Goals

In order to accomplish the mission of Alaska Bible College and in keeping with the mission strategy and core values set by the Board of Directors, ABC seeks to accomplish the following institutional academic goals to be observed in each graduate of Alaska Bible College.

Graduates of Alaska Bible College will...

Biblical Worldview – Analyze, synthesize, and evaluate knowledge, experience, and culture with a biblical worldview as critical thinkers and lifelong learners, interpreting and applying the Scriptures as the final authority for faith and practice.

Christlike Character – Know, love, and enjoy God by developing a continuous passion for a personal and intimate relationship with Christ, becoming like Him in character by exhibiting the virtues of faith, hope, and love in their lives.

Servant Leadership – Serve as leaders and lead as servants in the local church—the visible expression of the Body of Christ on earth—exercising their spiritual gifts and serving Christ by being involved in fulfilling the Great Commission in their local community and around the world.

Assessment Plan History

The Alaska Bible College assessment plan was initially written in 2012 as part of the ABHE Self Study process, and implementation began in May 2013. Prior to this, no regular, formal assessment was performed by the faculty or administration (though records do show that President Steve Hostetter initiated detailed assessment planning in the early 2000s prior to his departure). As a result of the 2012 self-study and evaluation visit, the Academic Dean was specifically assigned to oversee the assessment process. The initial plan was carried through its full 3-year cycle. Each year, the assessment committee documented specific recommendations for improving the plan. In the 2016-2017 school year, the Academic Dean revised the assessment plan according to the things learned over the previous three years. The revised plan went into effect in the 2017-2018 school year. This 3-year cycle ended in 2021.

In 2021, Alaska Bible College set about reevaluating its institutional academic goals. With the addition of the Elementary Education degree program, it was determined that the previous institutional goals were too focused solely on the Bible and Ministry degree programs. In conjunction with the renewed core values set by the board, the faculty consolidated and streamlined the six former General Objectives of Spiritual Growth, Biblical Foundation, Ministry Involvement, Servant Leadership, Church Commitment, and Biblical Worldview. The three new Institutional Academic Goals are Biblical Worldview, Christlike Character, and Servant Leadership.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

Assessment of Student Learning focuses on the three Academic Institutional Goals of the College: Biblical Worldview, Christlike Character, and Servant Leadership. Since all of the various departmental, program, and course objectives are ultimately drawn from these, assessing the general objectives will provide the most efficient and comprehensive picture of student learning across all branches of the curriculum.

Assessment of Student Learning Committee

The Assessment of Student Learning Committee is formed by the ABC faculty, the Registrar, Library Director, and the Administrative Team. The Committee is chaired by the Academic Dean and meets at his discretion. Generally speaking, time for assessment activities is allotted during regularly-scheduled faculty meetings and during the school-wide Planning Meetings at the end of the academic year.

Assessment Cycle

Each year, the Assessment of Student Learning Committee will assess all three of Academic Institutional Goals outlined above.

Assessment Instruments

The following are the instruments that will be used to assess achievement of the three Institutional Academic Goals. Based on what was learned from the initial assessment cycle, the Assessment of Student Learning Committee's desire is to use two instruments to assess each objective. The first metric utilizes the student's subjective, self-reported response. The second metric is based on an objective measurement of the student's work and performance.

ABHE Bible Knowledge Exam: The ABHE Bible Knowledge Exam is administered twice to all students (upon matriculation and graduation). By comparing students' entry and exit scores, the effectiveness of ABC's Biblical Studies program is assessed. The Academic Dean is responsible to administer the exams and compile the scores. The Academic Dean is responsible to evaluate the scores and submit them to the Faculty for assessment during the third year of the assessment cycle. As this is an online exam provided by ABHE, the cost is limited to the labor involved in preparing, administering, and compiling the exams. This instrument is used to assess the Institutional Academic Goal of *Biblical Worldview*.

Graduate Exit Survey and Interview: Exit surveys are administered to each graduate of ABC in conjunction with an exit interview conducted by the President of Alaska Bible College. Since 2015, these have been administered online using Google Forms. Graduates of each program assess their own growth in responding to this survey. Students respond on a scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Students' responses to each question are averaged annually. The President is responsible to administer the interviews. The Academic Dean is responsible to evaluate the results and submit them to the faculty for assessment during the first year of the assessment cycle. The cost is limited to the labor and supplies involved in preparing, administering and compiling the interviews. The cost is limited to the labor involved in preparing, administering, and compiling the forms as

Google Forms is free for educational institutions. This instrument is used to assess the Institutional Academic Goals of *Biblical Worldview, Christlike Character, and Servant Leadership*.

Supervised Ministry Experience Field Supervisor Evaluations: At the conclusion of each the Supervised Ministry Experience Course, each student's Field Supervisor completes a Google form evaluating their effectiveness in a variety of skills on a scale of 1 (0%) to 5 (100%). Responses to each question are averaged annually. Data will be collected by the Academic Dean and distributed to the faculty Assessment of Student Learning Committee, who will then evaluate the responses according to assessment criteria. The cost is limited to the labor involved in preparing, administering, and compiling the forms as Google Forms is free for educational institutions. This instrument is used to assess the Institutional Academic Goals of *Biblical Worldview, Christlike Character, and Servant Leadership*.

CMT Self-Reflections and Mentor Assessments: Throughout each semester, all students enrolled in any program at ABC are enrolled in Christian Ministry Training and are assigned a mentor. Students will assess themselves and discuss with their Mentors 15 points of Christlike character. These personal evaluations will be monitored by the mentors throughout the semester. At the end of each semester, CMT students will evaluate themselves using a Google form evaluating their performance in these 15 Christlike Character qualities on a scale of 1 (0%) to 5 (100%). This instrument is used to assess the Institutional Academic Goal of *Christlike Character*.

ITS Research Paper: Integrated Theology Seminar is a capstone course for the BA student. Its focus is the integration of theology with contemporary ministry concerns and/or issues. Students write a guided research paper and present their findings and conclusions to fellow ABC students and faculty. For assessment purposes, these papers are reviewed by the faculty Assessment of Student Learning Committee. The committee develops an evaluation rubric that speaks to the objective at hand. The ITS instructor is responsible to administer the assignment and collect the papers. Assignments are submitted and stored electronically via Populi until needed. The Academic Dean downloads the papers from Populi, removes any grading comments and other information that might affect the Assessment of Student Learning Committee's neutrality, and distributes the papers to the committee for evaluation against the rubric. Each committee member then evaluates each paper individually and returns the completed evaluations to the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean averages the scores and submits them to the committee for final evaluation. The cost is limited to the labor associated with collecting and evaluating the papers. This instrument is used to assess the Institutional Academic Goal of *Biblical Worldview*.

Inductive Bible Study Final Projects:

Introduction to Biblical Living Worldview Assessment Papers:

Personal Evangelism Sharing the Gospel Encounters:

Christian Ministry Training Orientation Church Covenants:

Principles of Biblical Interpretation Exegetical Papers:

Introduction to Philosophy Presentations:

Biblical Discipleship Summation/Reflection Assignment On Discipleship:

Intercultural Communications Course Perspective Papers:

Christian Ministry Training Self Evaluations:

New Testament Survey Research Papers:

Survey of Worldviews Presentations:

Academic Departments

To accomplish the institutional academic goals of Alaska Bible College, each graduate must complete the requisite courses in each academic department: Biblical Studies, Christian Ministry, General Education, and Educator Preparation (unique to the Elementary Education degree). Each academic department seeks to accomplish the following objectives at the level requisite to each program of study.

Department of Biblical Studies (BI)

Departmental Purpose:

The Department of Biblical Studies equips students to study, interpret, and apply Scriptures in order to be thoroughly equipped “for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:17). Thorough knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures (2 Tim. 2:15) is foundational to the entire curriculum of Alaska Bible College.

Departmental Objectives:

Upon completion of core courses in the Department of Biblical Studies, students will...

- Study the Bible inductively and interpret Scripture with a literal historical-grammatical hermeneutic.
- Explain the historical progression and content of the Bible as a whole.
- Think Biblically regarding all aspects of life.
- Integrate a sound theological framework that reflects the Truth of God’s revelation to life and ministry.

Department of Christian Ministry (CM)

Departmental Purpose:

The Department of Christian Ministry prepares students to effectively evangelize, disciple, and lead as servants in the local church, the visible expression of the Body of Christ. Christian Ministry courses are designed to empower and equip students to use their spiritual gifts for ministry in a variety of settings.

Departmental Objectives:

Upon completion of core courses in the Department of Christian Ministry, students will...

- Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the only means of eternal salvation and hope for the world to be appropriated by faith alone.
- Disciple others and be discipled to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- Exhibit a commitment to the local church.
- Serve as leaders and lead as servants in various ministry settings.

Department of General Education (GE)

Departmental Purpose:

The Department of General Education trains students to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate knowledge, experience, and culture as critical thinkers and lifelong learners. General Education courses offer an expansive intellectual grounding in various kinds of human inquiry. By exploring issues, ideas, and methods across the humanities, the arts, and the natural and social sciences, students learn to think critically, write cogently, and communicate effectively.

Departmental Objectives:

Upon completion of core courses in the Department of General Education, students will...

- Think critically by analyzing systems of thinking, metaphysics, logic, epistemology, and ethics.
- Establish a set of underlying beliefs or claims about the truth of reality that govern their values and decisions according to an ultimate authority of truth.
- Evaluate various issues, ideas, and methods across the humanities, the arts, and the natural and social sciences.
- Read, write, speak, and research with basic, college-level competencies.

Department of Educator Preparation (ED)

Departmental Purpose:

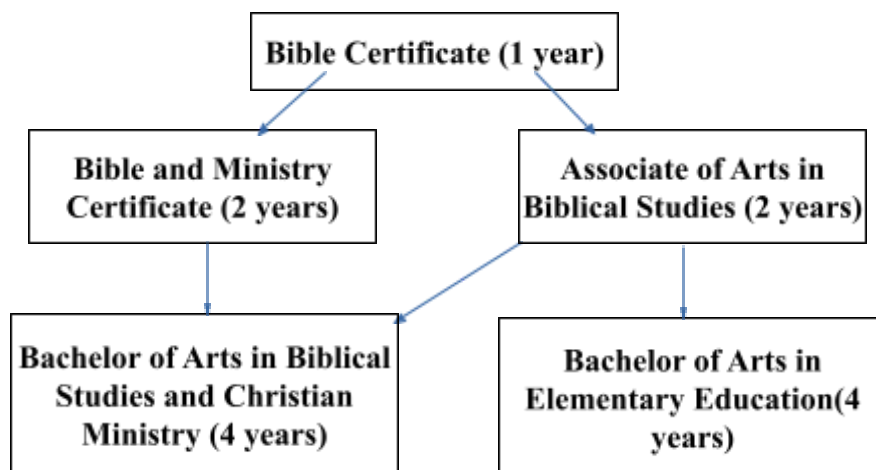
The Department of Educator Preparation prepares servants who lead with Christlike character who are called to be highly effective teacher candidates equipped to meet the diverse learning needs of students in various learning environments throughout Alaska and beyond.

Departmental Objectives:

Upon completion of core courses in the Department of Educator Preparation, students will...

- The Learner and Learning - Create equitable learning environments that support diverse learners while responding to community cultural contexts by understanding the principles of child development and learning modes.
- Content Knowledge and Application - Understand the central concepts of the subjects to be taught and connect concepts, using critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem-solving skills.
- Instructional Practice - Design effective curriculum that includes comprehensive planning for instruction, engaging and effective instructional strategies, assessment and evaluation of student learning, and contextualized behavioral support.
- Professional Development - Develop as professional educators who are servants who lead with Christlike character.

Integration of Departmental Objectives in Degree Programs



Degree Program Objectives

Each degree program at Alaska Bible College combines the four departmental objectives into degree program objectives that individual students will be able to accomplish at the requisite level of degree program. Each degree program at Alaska Bible College is built upon the lower degree programs. Students in the four-year degree programs also complete the requirements of the two-year degree programs, and students in two-year degree programs also complete the requirements of the one-year certificate (see above chart).

The Bible Certificate (1 year) equips students to:

- Read, interpret, and apply, the Word of God inductively.

Inductive Bible Study Final Projects: Fall 2022 Median 80.0%

ABHE Bible Knowledge Exam Spring 2023 Mean 80.2%

- Integrate Biblical principles into Christlike character in daily life.

Christian Ministry Training Self Evaluations: Spring 2023 Median Score 4.18

- Effectively evangelize and disciple people.

Personal Evangelism Sharing the Gospel Encounters: Fall 2022 Median Score 88.0%

- Find a local church home in which to fellowship and grow.

Christian Ministry Training Orientation Church Visits: Not Surveyed 2023

The Bible and Ministry Certificate

In addition to the objectives of the Bible Certificate (1 year), the Bible and Ministry Certificate (2 years) equips students to:

- Study, obey, and prepare to teach the Word of God.

Principles of Biblical Interpretation Exegetical Papers: Spring 2022 Median Score 84.0%

ABHE Bible Knowledge Exam Spring 2023 Mean 80.2%

- Acquire the essential critical thinking skills necessary for building a biblical worldview.

Survey of Worldviews Presentations: Spring 2023 Median Score 90.0%

- Grow in appreciation of Christ's character.

Biblical Discipleship Summation/Reflection On Discipleship: Spring 2023 Median 87.5%

- Develop relational skills to evangelize and disciple people in diverse cultural contexts.

Intercultural Communications Course Perspective Papers: Spring 2023 Median 99.5%

- Serve in a ministry role within the local church.

Christian Ministry Training Ministry Covenants: Not Surveyed 2023

- Write, research, and think cogently.

New Testament Survey Research Papers: Spring 2022 Median 89.5%

The Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies

In addition to the objectives of the Bible Certificate (1 year), the Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies (2 years) equips students to:

- Effectively study, apply, and prepare to teach the Word of God.

Principles of Biblical Interpretation Exegetical Papers: Spring 2022 Median 84.0%

ABHE Bible Knowledge Exam Spring 2023 Mean 80.2%

- Think critically about the world from a biblical worldview.

Survey of Worldviews Presentations: Spring 2023 Median 90.0%

- Develop a desire for a lifelong pursuit of God.

Christian Ministry Training Self Evaluations: Spring 2023 Mean Score 4.3

- Grow in Christlike character.

Christian Ministry Training Self Evaluations: Spring 2023 Mean Score 4.2

- Develop relational skills to evangelize and disciple people in diverse cultural contexts.

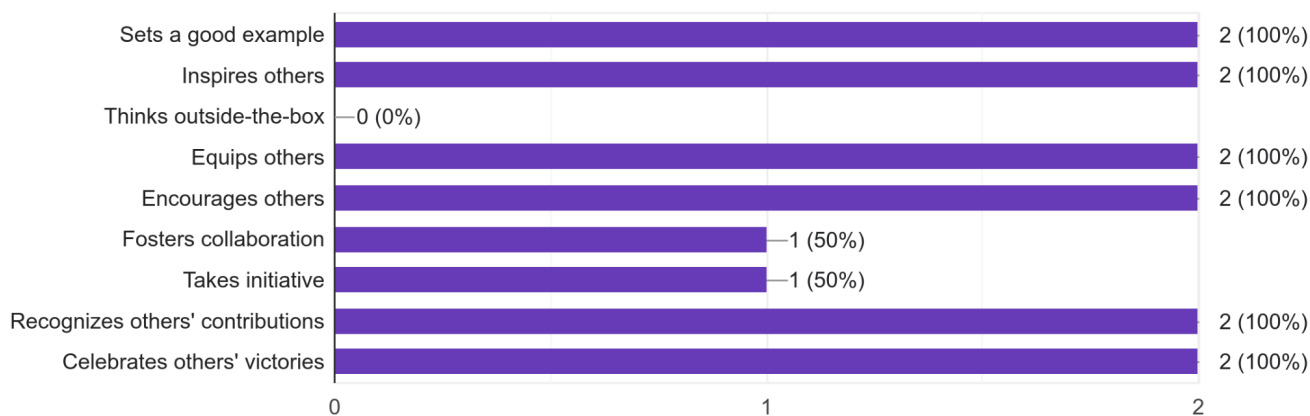
Intercultural Communications Course Perspective Papers: Spring 2023 Median 99.5%

- Demonstrate servant leadership in the family, the workplace, and the church.

Supervised Ministry Experience Field Supervisor Evaluations:

Which of the following terms describe the student's leadership skills (select all that you have observed)?

2 responses



The Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry

In addition to the objectives of the Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies (2 years), the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry (4 year) equips students to:

- Integrate a sound theological framework based on a literal historical-grammatical hermeneutic that reflects the Truth of God's revelation to life and ministry.

ITS Research Paper Spring 2023 Mean 97.5

ABHE Bible Knowledge Exam Spring 2023 Mean 80.2%

- Understand, appreciate, and critically engage the world around them in ministry from a biblical worldview.

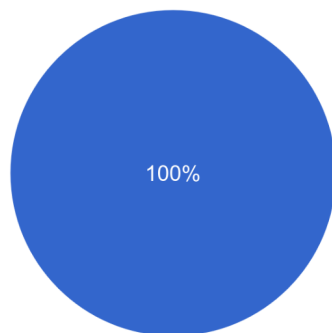
ITS Research Paper Spring 2023 Mean 97.5

- Demonstrate Christlike character.

Supervised Ministry Experience Field Supervisor Evaluations

How would you describe the student's personal character?

2 responses



- The student demonstrates Christ-like character.
- The student desires to emulate Christ.
- The student has areas that have not been conformed to Christ-likeness.
- The student is disinterested in conformity to Christ's character.

- Think critically, write cogently, and communicate effectively, supporting conclusions with sound scholarship.

ITS Research Paper Spring 2023 Mean 97.5

- Apply a broad range of basic ministry skills in a vocational ministry role.

Supervised Ministry Experience Field Supervisor Evaluations

All aspects of accounting/ bills payable and receivable/. Scheduling Pastor's appointments/ Scheduling room use/ answering phones/ designing and printing communicator guides/ creating agenda for staff meetings/ leading missions team meetings/ running a small group bible study/ collecting and depositing tithes/ overseeing the prayer group ministry/ and about a million other things.

The Intern works with the middle school ministry. I'm confident that she has done great with children's Sunday school in the past, though she typically does not help there anymore. She is also very faithful to completing extra tasks given to her by the leadership.

- Lead effectively as a servant in a local church or para-church setting.

Supervised Ministry Experience Field Supervisor Evaluations

What terms would best describe the student's attitude toward serving (select all that you've observed)?

2 responses

