Office of Civic Engagement
“Action” Component of the McDonough Leadership Program

Internship Reflection Paper Prompt

Part I-Description

Describe your internship experiences. You can organize this as a daily description, or a weekly one. It might be helpful to organize your descriptions based on the activities that you are involved in on a regular basis during your internship.

Part II and III below will comprise a single, reflective essay analyzing your internship experience. Your reflective essay should be at least 8-10 typed pages, 12 point font (Times New Roman or Arial), 1” margins, double spaced.

Part II-Reflection

Write a narrative essay reflecting on your internship experiences. Be sure to respond to at least 8 of the 12 questions below. At least one question should be selected from each of the four core courses. Do not respond to each question in isolation; tie it together as a single reflective essay.

LEAD 101

• How is power distributed in your organization?
• What are the ethical challenges that your work site faces on a routine basis?
• What is the relationship between leaders and followers in your organization? Please use the Leadership Continuum to answer this question.
LEAD 103
- What is the best metaphor to describe your organization?
- Describe the culture within your organization.
- How do people communicate in your organization (formally, informally, etc.)?

LEAD 201
- Describe your internship site supervisor’s leadership style. Relate your description to specific theories of leadership.
- Which civilizational paradigm best describes your internship site? Why?
- How does your leadership theory developed in Leadership 201 fit this with the internship site? Explain.

LEAD 203
- How is globalization affecting your internship site?
- How does your internship site handle cross-cultural leadership challenges?
- How does your organization handle rapid change?

Part III-Analysis of Goals

Reexamine your goal statements in relation to both your major and leadership that you set forth in your Internship Learning Agreement. As a conclusion to your reflective essay, examine to what extent you achieved these goals. Provide examples as appropriate.