

## **Graduate Assistantship Position Description Christian Leadership and Retreats**

The graduate assistant in the Christian Leadership, Vocation and Retreats office works in collaboration with his/her supervisory campus minister to guide student leaders in the planning and preparation of a variety of retreat experiences for mostly upper class students (sophomores through seniors) and the facilitation of small faith sharing groups (Journey Groups, Madeleine Groups and/or Discipleship Sodalities). Through these experiences, the GA empowers students to nurture faith development, create community, embrace simplicity, and to live lives of prayer and service.

### **I. Ministry Responsibilities and Relationships**

#### **A. Retreat Ministry Responsibilities**

- Facilitate two large retreat teams per year including a formation retreat for each team (two total) in addition to the retreat each team leads.
- Facilitate at least one other retreat per semester (i.e. Men's/ Women's/ Co-Ed Wilderness, Guided Retreat, Collegiate Discernment Retreat, Catholic Lenten Retreat, etc.).
- Collaborate with retreats campus ministers on budget, supplies, retreat registration, and scheduling retreats and retreat centers.
- Support the development of Madeleine program (student-led small group ministry program)
- Facilitate an ongoing Discipleship Sodality (campus minister led small group)
- Be available to meet with students as needed (pastoral care or less formal meetings).

#### **B. Relationship with Supervisor**

- Meet weekly with individual supervisor to discuss goals, challenges, successes, values, and feelings centered around reflection on ministry experiences, ministerial application of academic work, and development of ministerial skills.
- Engage in a collaborative style of ministry giving feedback and sharing ideas with one another.
- Participate in a mid-year and end of year self-assessment and goal setting process with supervisor.
- Suggest/initiate new ministry possibilities and/or models of leadership development for retreats and/or faith communities based on your interests and student needs.

#### **C. Participation with larger Campus Ministry team**

- Be an active member of the UD Campus Ministry Team through participation in the bi-weekly Campus Ministry Team meetings and other Campus Ministry-sponsored events.
- Participate in Christian Leadership, Vocation, and Retreats work team meetings and collaboratives.
- Participate in a Campus Ministry sub-committee.
- Share information on campus-wide Campus Ministry activities to ministry area.
- Assist with campus wide Campus Ministry events (eg: major liturgies).

#### **D. Graduate Assistant Program Activities**

- Participate in the July/ August orientation for GAs .
- Participate in regular GA Pastoral and Spiritual Formation experiences (several times a month)
- Assist in the planning of and attend August and January GA retreats.

## **II. Commitment to academic excellence**

- Maintain a 3.0 Academic Grade point average and 6 credit hours per semester (including summer sessions).
- Maintain a relationship with an Academic Advisor.
- Be responsible and on time with studies and assignments.
- Participate in activities of Religious Studies Program.

## **III. Overall Learning**

- Specific ways in which GAs serve at UD are replete with possibility. While there are programs and traditions that GA's continue, there is plenty of room for personality and specialized ministry styles.
- Remember that these two years are intended to be a learning time; a time to try new things, to explore ministry, self, faith, etc. GAs should ask questions and seek to expose themselves to a variety of campus ministry experiences.
- GAs are not expected to be a full-time campus ministers. It is important to strike a balance between academics, ministry, and personal activities that maintain energy, and health, and spiritual well-being.

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