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Internship Program

Integration and Belonging Hub

Fall 2022

Internship program syllabus

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Integration and Belonging Hub Internships: Connecting Clark to migrant, displaced, and refugee residents in Worcester and beyond

Internship Program

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*You can usually expect a response to emails within 48 business hours.

Summary

Integration and Belonging Hub, to promote collaboration among departments, engagement between academic and community partners, student involvement, and innovative research towards understanding multi-directional processes of migration and social cohesion. Establishing such a Hub responds to steadily growing interest among Clark students for experiential and career opportunities in both the non-profit refugee and municipal services sectors and with migration policy actors, in Worcester and elsewhere.¹ Such a Hub would also generate synergies among Clark and other researchers investigating integration as an inclusive relational process and contribute to new thinking around mobility and belonging. And a Hub will serve as a space to gather currently scattered Clark resources² for use by Clark community members and other community groups in Worcester. Building upon models of urban sustainability, an Integration and Belonging Hub views migrants and refugees as a vital part of 21st-century transformation in the face of significant social, economic, political, and environmental strain.

Guided Internships Program

¹ Example of possible placement organizations: Refugee resettlement organizations, nonprofit immigration assistance agencies, non-documented immigrant support network organizations and others locally, within MA, or within US; Appropriate ethnic mutual assistance organizations; City of Worcester, such as the human rights office, employment assistance department, the mayor's office; MA Office of Refugees and Immigrants, any federal or international organizations if appropriate for the student access; Migrant health providers if possible

² Examples include the Refugee Research Repository at Kasperson Library and the Clark Scholars at Risk program.

- A Guided Internship Program will place students in experiential internships with refugee service and humanitarian agencies in Worcester, other USA cities, and internationally.
- Interns will be supported by regular group workshops to learn about the unique characteristics of refugee resettlement in the United States and elsewhere, the ethics of care in the refugee service profession, cultural humility, and other relevant topics in social justice, forced migration and integration.

Placement Outcomes

For students pursuing For-Credit Internships:

At the conclusion of the internship and with the agreement of their faculty sponsor, students will submit a paper choosing to analyze one of the several topics/aspects of interest they focused on during their internship. Clark faculty will obtain written feedback from a placement staff on student performance as an added tool in educating students on practical issues in the workplace. Each student will submit their evaluation of the organization and the work practices they observed.

This placement deepens community engagement for the University and students because it cultivates a commitment to partnerships with local organizations providing essential resources, for individuals and families who are refugees, to overcome challenges and barriers to education, job opportunities and housing.

This placement also facilitates learning outcomes, essential to careers in humanitarian assistance: empathy, communication, adaptability, motivation, compassion, and negotiation of complex processes.

Internship Expectations

- Interns are expected to do a modest amount of reading on the subject matter
- Interns should attend lectures and webinars to enhance the internship experience and deepen understanding of belonging and integration
- Students are required to attend the biweekly meetings to share and reflect on their placements and connect their observations with and participate in discussions on the readings.

Activity	Estimated hours
Internship placement	TBD
Biweekly meetings	10
Internship reports	5
Total	

Internship Resources

- Articles and videos – provided in Hub Internship shared drive

Outputs

Discussions

Discussions will provide an opportunity for us to reflect, discuss, and build on the course material in a focused and deliberate way. Specifically, you will be asked to reflect on the materials, expand your peers' understanding and contribute to lively class discussions.

Journal

You will keep a journal each week for 10 weeks (starting in Week 2) that analyzes and evaluates your internship. These will be due at the end of the internship. You will be required to share on journal entry during the course of the semester.

Internship Schedule

Introduction

Session	Speaker	Topic	Date
1	Anita/Sharon/ student Imaan Adil, professional/ zoom	Welcome to the Internship Program Clarkies working with refugees Careers in refugee service	Oct 12
2	MORI State Refugee Office	Welcoming Network Quarterly Consultation -- Worcester resettlement	Oct 13

3	Brianne Casey <u>Refugee Welcome Collective</u>	Integration indicators https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ymovq4KGlrwmsP8tUtCisbQq65sDZB5QCoYMTwMDM6E/edit?usp=sharing	Oct 26
4	Craig Mortley/LGBT Asylum Task Force	Belonging in the LGBT community	Nov 9
6	Stephanie Acker	Working with refugee led organizations	Nov 30
7	Clarkie Refugee people/Sharon	Luncheon/sharing	Week of Dec 12