

HarvestNet Institute

Short Term Missions Ministry Trip Guidelines

NAME: _____ Trip Date(s): _____

I) You are enrolled in the Short Term Ministry Field Experience course below:

Course Number: STM802 STM803 STM804 Course Credits (Circle): 2 3 4

Trip Location(s): _____ Course Monitor (name): _____

Course Requirements for Credit

Prior to Departure

A) RESEARCH / PREPARATION requirement(s):

- 1) You are to view a video about your target country or area (check out library).
- 2) READ an informative book (a good travel guide book – e.g. FODOR's) about your target area/country.
- 3) If you are the Team Leader, you must also read the following:

4) WRITING requirement(s): *You are required to write a 500+ word paper on the History, Culture, Religion and other areas of significance about your target country/area on the basis of the book referred to in A) 2) above.*

During the Trip (Do either [A] or [B] below, depending on your role.)

A) IF YOU WERE JUST A TEAM MEMBER: DO keep (write) a trip journal and incorporate *daily* entries including:

- Record specifics of what you and your team actually do each day?
- Reflections & observations on kinds & effectiveness of ministry utilized during the trip.
- Cross-cultural challenges you experience.
- What are you learning ...
 - about yourself (strengths, weaknesses, areas needing work, etc.?)
 - about your ministry (where do you experience grace, where do you struggle, etc.?)
- Natural & spiritual observations re: your host country (religious climate, spiritual climate, how is ministry here different than in the U.S., cultural +/- , other....)
- What did God do in your life to change you, help you grow, etc.?

B) IF YOU WERE LEADING THE TEAM: Do keep (write) a Leadership Observations Notebook to record your observations on:

- What leadership skills did you find necessary to plan, recruit and organize the team?
- What are you learning about team unity & cohesiveness in pastoring your team, about motivating team members, about placing people according to their gifts, etc.?
- What leadership skills did you find yourself utilizing, and in what areas did you feel lack or unprepared in leading the team during the mission experience?
- Did you face any leadership challenges on this trip, and if so, how did you resolve them?
- What would you do differently to prepare your team for a STM trip in the future?
- What did God do in your life to change you, help you grow, etc.?

After the Trip

A) AFTER YOU RETURN, schedule a follow-up de-briefing with your Monitor [_____].

B) WRITE a 600-1200 word impact paper that summarizes your ministry experience. This should have the pertinent text of your daily journal attached (i.e., NOT very *personal stuff*), and discuss in-depth what you've learned in general, and specifically about cross-cultural ministry.

III) Turn your writing assignments in to _____ by _____ 20__

PLEASE turn this sheet in with your paper when completed.

SIGNED: _____ Paper Grade _____ FINAL GRADE: _____