

Is pleased to accept applications for participation in

“Introduction to Humanitarian Assistance & Engagement”

A Complex Humanitarian Response Simulation

Introduction to Humanitarian Assistance & Engagement is a large-scale simulation exercise designed to replicate program operations involving non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations (IOs), the military (national and international), national and local offices of government, beneficiaries, the corporate sector, and the media. The exercise is directed at mid-level managers engaged in program operations in the field and at headquarters. This simulation will challenge participants’ knowledge and understanding of the complexities of program management during response to natural or manmade disasters.

Practicum Background:

The need for effective disaster response has never been greater. As the impact of these events on a globalized society grown, an organized response becomes an increasing imperative. The traditional community responding to humanitarian needs – international organizations, non-governmental organizations and / or civilian authorities- - has rapidly expanded to include both military and private corporations. Along with this expansion, we also see are growing concerns regarding individual and operational security. With all these challenges, organizing programs and measuring success has become increasingly difficult.

The *Engagement* practicum offers an opportunity for participants to improve their knowledge base and their technical skills through direct collaboration with peers and experienced practitioners. The Practicum brings together professionals with humanitarian graduate studies students. It is thus a conscious blending of academic insights and professional experience.

Participants will be tasked to meet specific objectives performing as individuals and working in small groups. The pace of this exercise will be high; the challenges demanding.

Practicum Objectives:

The course will

- Create greater awareness of the present humanitarian environment;
- Introduce participants to an evolving methodology and application of tools;
- Build on the little appreciated relationship between effective action and informed research;
- Strengthen participant’s information -processing skills;
- Given its diverse participant base, the course will offer additional opportunities for future networking

Particulars:

Timing:

The Practicum is scheduled to take place over a three week period, from Monday, January 11 through Friday, January 29, 2010 inclusive. Sessions typically run from 8:30 AM through 1:00 PM throughout the term.

Location:

Morse Building, Room B106

Applicant requirements:

- General familiarity with major humanitarian organizations;
- Experience with humanitarian operations (preferred);
- Basic computer knowledge: Microsoft Word and Excel

Attire:

Casual

Materials:

Provided or available on the web

Course Themes:

The practicum explores all major phases of international humanitarian action. The course prioritizes these activities into three broad themes, running progressively and overlapping, as appropriate, through the three weeks as follows:

Week One (January 11 – 15): **Establishing the Base**

(Engagement policy, rationale, planning, deployment and initial set-up in an international environment)

Week Two (January 18 – 22): **Crisis and Program Management**

(Defining issues and assets, determining appropriate response, managing and monitoring response for success)

Week Three (January 25 – 29): **The Governance Continuum**

(Building towards stability, reconstruction, and development)

Course Management:

The practicum has been designed and will be managed by Roy Williams and Bill Hyde, two senior humanitarian service professionals with over five decades experience reflecting extensive involvement in NGO, IO and government aid programs. These professionals will be assisted by other seasoned personnel well-versed in experiential training, development and higher education.

To apply:

Please complete following short form and submit to: whyde@middlebury.edu
If additional space is needed, please write on back or on additional page.

Name (first, last): _____

Email and phone: _____

Relevant coursework (title): _____

Relevant professional experience (please detail): _____

Reason for application: _____
