

Gerontology Certificate Internship Reflection Paper Assignment

You will be awarded a Certificate in Gerontology from Indiana State University upon completion of the requirements for the program. Along with the required courses, you must complete an internship of at least 120 hours in an agency that works with or serves older adults. Once you have completed your internship in an age-related service site, please compose a 2-3 page (double-spaced, Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins) reflection paper regarding your experiences. This paper must be submitted to the Gerontology program director before your Certificate in Gerontology will be awarded.

Your paper should address the following:

- Identify and describe the aging service agency in which you worked and how you might refer older adults to services provided through this or other agencies
- Describe the internship experience, its goals and activities
- Explain how theories of adult development and aging were reflected in your internship experience. Consider the practices of the agency, the experiences of the older adults served by the agency, and your personal experiences and interactions with staff and older adults
- Share the personal meaning of your professional practice. Reflect on how your internship experience affected you personally.
- Share the lessons of experience. What did you learn about older adults and how people change (or don't) as they age? About those who work with older adults? About your desire and ability to work with older adults? What might you like to do in the future related to aging? How do you feel this experience has contributed to your career-readiness?

Location of internship experience: _____

Hours completed at site: _____

Signature of site supervisor: _____

Printed name of site supervisor: _____