Clinical and Applied Sociology

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OMEGA Graduate School

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Professor

Dr. Josh Reichard

Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

* Course Essential Elements
  + **Applied Sociology and Sociological Practice**
  + Clinical Sociology
  + Sociological Interventions
  + Applications for Sociological Research

1. Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week of the residency. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

The Essential Element I chose for this assignment is Applied Sociology and Sociological Practice. As a potential social researcher, I believe my work can impact three different people groups; as well as improve assignments for all groups (i.e., sending organization, missionary, receiving entity).

The plan is to study the impact of training through and analyze the change in outcomes (i.e., improved team relations, more effective utilization of individuals in their missionary assignment).

My project will use research skills to gain empirically based knowledge that I will share with missionary students and organizations. Study results will provide evidence and knowledge in support of the new training program. The premise is that adding a vocational and a spiritual gifts assessment can better match candidates to their assignments.

For mission sending organizations, this concept may be new and may require them to assign people differently. For the missionary, they may not be thinking about how their vocation or spiritual gifts are relevant to the mission. Lastly, the company/entity receiving the missionary may not have considered the importance of knowing the vocation and spiritual gifts of the person coming to serve with them.

Each party mentioned will be introduced to the idea of why a missionary’s vocational and spiritual gifts are important to know. Ultimately, I believe this can 1) increase the number of repeat assignments, 2) reduce the number of terminated assignments, 3) increase the number of people serving on mission trips, and 4) create more impactful results and bigger goals for future trips.

I hope to work with individuals and organizations to increase the number of repeat assignments, as well as those committing to becoming long term missionaries. Last summer I discussed this program with several missionary organization leaders and received positive results, which I want to capitalize on. This is going to be an amazing semester as God continues to refine my work and prepares me to launch the training program at the end of this year (hopefully).

WORKS CITED