



# ELON

TRUITT CENTER FOR  
Religious and  
Spiritual Life

## **Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life Multifaith Internship**

Do you want to explore diverse religious, spiritual, and ethical traditions? Are you interested in an experiential internship that involves planning diverse religious celebrations and holidays, meaningful one-on-one conversations, and involvement with all aspects of Elon's multifaith experience? Are you seeking to deepen your understanding of your own religious background in a Multifaith context and serve as an ambassador for Multifaith at Elon?

Look no further than the **Multifaith Internship** at the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life.

The **Multifaith Internship** is a journey, through which interns are expected to intentionally listen to the voices, narratives, and experiences of individuals who identify with diverse religious, spiritual, and ethical traditions with the goal of deepening religious literacy and increasing comfort with participating in and facilitating interfaith conversations.

Along with representatives of these religious communities, interns will create space, build and cultivate relationships, lead programs, and facilitate learning opportunities about religious and spiritual identities and experiences on campus and beyond. All this will be to explore, firsthand, how cooperation and collaboration foster learning, appreciation and greater understanding, and how this enhances Elon's Multifaith campus community.

This **Multifaith Internship** is a commitment of 8-10 hours per week for the entire 2024-2025 Academic year and involves 2 hours of office hours and 6-8 hours of programming work and multifaith engagement. Students can apply to be **Multifaith Interns** for more than one year (responsibilities and expectations for second-year interns will be different).

### **The key expectations of the internship are as follows:**

#### **MEETINGS**

- Participate in weekly full cohort meetings
- Participate in bi-weekly one-on-ones with the Assistant Dean to check in on internship goals and once a month with the Associate Chaplain for Jewish Life
- Participate in two retreats, one in the fall and one in the spring, which are designed to enhance community relationships and facilitate connections within the cohort.

#### **FESTIVALS, EVENTS, and PROGRAMS**

- Interns are the key program coordinators for the Truitt Center festivals, programs, and events, which help bring multifaith alive on Elon's campus. As a part of this internship, interns will learn how to plan a successful event for one of the religious and spiritual traditions in the community. They will learn about the significance of the event and engage in thoughtful event planning (coordinate, promote, set up, execute, and clean up). The cohort will have the opportunity to work in small groups to delegate work to other students and hone leadership skills.



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- Each intern is expected to be the point person for at least one festival each semester, and provide support for and attend the other annual events from start to finish.
  - The festivals include, but are not limited to: Sand Mandala, Diwali, Festival of Lights and Luminaries, Lunar New Year, Eid al-Fitr, Holi, and Purim.
  - The events include but are not limited to: Numen Lumen: A Thursday Inspiration, New Student Orientation, wInterfaith, Ecumenical or Interfaith Spring Break, and Yom HaShoah.
- Every intern is expected to serve on the leadership team for the annual Ripple Interfaith Conference.

## **ENGAGEMENT (MCMs)**

- Elon is a Multifaith campus, which means that everyone here is a part of a larger Multifaith community, whether they are aware of it or not. Part of the intern's job is to act as ambassador for the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, spread awareness of our multifaith community, and to be an active listener as interns encourage others to share their stories and grow facility in speaking about religious and spiritual identities.
- Interns are expected to contact and connect with students, faculty and staff across campus for at least one hour each week for Multifaith Connection Meetings (MCM). In order to develop skills as a Multifaith ambassador, interns will need to intentionally build relationships with people of different identities, so they can learn about their journeys. After each conversation, interns are expected to reflect on and document what they learned. Each MCM + reflection counts as 2 weekly hours.

## **INTERNSHIP PROJECT**

- As part of this internship, each cohort participant will be expected to create and fulfill an individual project. This project should contribute to Elon's Multifaith Initiatives, including the Multifaith Strategic Plan, the Spirit and Pride Initiative, etc.
- The expectations for this project are as follows:
  - It's achievable by the end of the academic year. It's something that draws on the intern's current strengths but also allows for new growth. It is meaningful to the intern as a representation of how they want to shift, grow or deepen their experiences of Multifaith at Elon. And it is something that the interns believe is needed by the Elon community to deepen religious literacy and multifaith understanding.
  - Upon completion of this project, the intern will write up a short description of the goals, the process, and the results.

## **GOALS, REFLECTIONS, JOURNALING, AND ASSESSMENT:**

- Each intern will be required to set one skills-based goal and one personal goal for the internship, and track their progress, alongside their supervisor, throughout the experience
- Regular reflections, journaling, and assessment are a part of the internship, and a way to help interns keep track of their journey. Interns are expected to make contributions to



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the Truitt Center newsletter and social media. Interns also debrief bi-weekly in their supervisor one-on-ones.

## **TRUITT CENTER AMBASSADOR and OFFICE HOURS**

- As part of the internship, interns are expected to work in the Numen Lumen Pavilion for 2 hours per week. During those two hours the interns are expected to be a welcoming presence, greeting visitors and acting as ambassadors for the Truitt Center. Office hours are also an opportunity to engage in research for intern projects, work on upcoming events, provide tours of the building, and host peers interested in multifaith at Elon.
- As student ambassadors, the Multifaith Interns serve as the voice and face of the Truitt Center. They will learn the skills to answer questions about the department, about multifaith work, and about opportunities to engage with Religious and Spiritual Life. Interns might also be called on to welcome prospective or admitted students.
- Interns are also invited to pick up Student Office Assistant shifts at the TC front desk, where they will gain useful administrative office skills, and learn about additional aspects of the Multifaith community at Elon. These shifts will not count towards internship hours.

## **MULTIFAITH INTERNSHIP LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Grow in religious literacy and understanding of the diverse religious, spiritual, and ethical identities on Elon's campus, and in the world
2. Develop values-based leadership and apply the goals of Inclusive Excellence to all aspects of the work (Skills based goal)
3. Foster the skills to engage others in respectful conversation around religious, spiritual, and ethical identity (Multifaith conversation meetings)
4. Participate in and facilitate effective dialogue among individuals with different religious, spiritual, and ethical identities (Ripple Conference)
5. Curate spaces for religious and spiritual celebrations that are authentic expressions of those traditions as well as spaces for education and community building (Festival series)
6. Interact with local communities and hear from practitioners, gaining first-hand experience of worship, ritual practice, values, and the diversity of expressions within a given tradition (site visits and retreats)
7. Invest in personal reflection around meaning and purpose, spiritual paths, and deepening connections with religious, spiritual, and ethical identity (Personal goal)