PRACTICUM COURSES / INTERNSHIPS – Eagle Construction Company

The John Brown University CM Department believes in the saying that "there is no substitute for experience." Accordingly, the CM program provides a considerable amount of "hands-on" experience. For CM seniors, this involves working out of the Eagle Construction office located within the department. From there they manage and supervise the construction of a project each year in the CM 4713 / CM 4723 course sequence. The freshmen help supply labor in courses CM 1112 and CM 1122.

JBU acquired five lots in a nearby subdivision to construct the practicum house. This enables a broader spectrum of the curriculum to be integrated into each year's project including surveying, scheduling, estimating and architectural design. Homes have been built on three of the lots and two more are available.

In addition to the practicum provided through the on-campus course work and through various voluntary practical service projects, each student is required to work for a construction company for at least one summer (a minimum of 400 hours) during his or her college career. Potential employers of graduates like to have a student work construction for as many summers as possible. Typically, this is a for-pay summer job found through the student's own efforts. This is done through the CM 2431 / 2441 course sequence. The CM Department maintains contact with local contractors and with the state ABC (Association of Builders and Contractors) and AGC (The Associated General Contractors of America) headquarters that can sometimes be helpful in finding summer employment. The JBU career development office also helps students find summer employment. Internships are a good way for individuals and companies to get to know one another. After the experience is finished, the student will fill out a one-page form describing the work activity. This is reviewed by the instructor and mailed by the CM Department to the employer for verification and comment.