Provide an overview of the organization/research project and a summary of your responsibilities, tasks, and/or projects.

I participated in staff training, move-in day for campers, classroom management M-TR (9am-7pm), F (9am-4pm), S (9am-noon), weekly staff meetings, move-out day. I walked campers to and from class each day, and, as seen in the picture above (wherein I learned how to draw blood spatters), I did most of the activities in class along with the students, but that was by choice!

During your internship, what did you accomplish or how did you make a difference? In what ways did you grow in your professional and technical skills?

Working with middle schoolers was a first for me, but by the end of the summer, I felt as though we all came away having learned so much. As a Teacher’s Assistant (TA), I essentially took the class alongside the students, and that gave me insight into what students respond to (and gave me the confidence to change things if they weren't responding). A lot of the things I learned on the job brought me back to my Educational Psych course!

Describe a problem that you helped to solve at your internship. What skills or knowledge from your education at Sewanee helped you address the problem?

Some of our material needed to shift on the fly in order to work best for our students. My ability to think on my feet was honed at Sewanee, and I'm so grateful to have learned to be flexible.
In what way were your teamwork skills strengthened?
   I got to work closely with others on both an individual basis and within groups. Although much of the program was written for us, we did a lot of thinking on our feet to make sure the material worked for our students.

How did your internship affect your career plans?
   It gave me relevant experience in the classroom, and solidified my interest in teaching

In what ways did your internship cause you to encounter people of different backgrounds from your own? What steps did you take to communicate effectively with such persons? What did you learn from such persons' perspectives?
   I met people from across the globe (coworkers and campers alike) and learned so much outside of the classroom, just as I do at Sewanee. I loved hearing different perspectives, especially at a time in our country where healthy discourse is vital. I benefited immensely from watching my students learn from each other, as they are middle/early high schoolers just beginning to speak up for what they believe in.

Words of thanks to your internship funding donors:
   It was great to work with a program like Duke TIP. I met some amazing people that I can consider friends (and professional references!), and I can see why students come back year after year.