Service-learning as a path to career development

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## Service-learning vs Volunteerism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service-learning</th>
<th>Volunteerism</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service-learning is a method of encouraging student learning and development through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in, and meets the needs of, a community.</td>
<td>Volunteerism is the engagement of students in activities where the primary emphasis is on the service being provided and the primary intended beneficiary is clearly the service recipient.</td>
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<td>It involves an elementary school, secondary school, institution of higher education, or community service program, along with the community.</td>
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<td>Service-learning has an academic context!</td>
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Service-learning

- Service-learning is based on a reciprocal relationship.
- The objectives of the class are tied to the service-learning experience.
- Integrating the service being performed and classroom learning is a natural extension of the interdisciplinary nature of community service and operates under the same premise as other school-to-work components.
Real World, Hands on Learning

Key Elements:

- Integrated Curriculum
- Time for Reflection
- Building Community Partnerships
- Diverse Activities
Benefits

- Active Learning
- Working with Diverse Populations
- Younger Participants
- School and Community Support
- Improved Citizenship and Self-Esteem
- Service learning helps students learn both academic and life skills
Benefits

- Positive effect on student personal development such as sense of personal efficacy, personal identity, spiritual growth and moral development
- Positive effect on reducing stereotypes and facilitating cultural and racial understanding
- Service-learning may subvert as well as support course goals of reducing stereotyped thinking and facilitating cultural and racial understanding.
- Service-learning has a positive effect on sense of social responsibility and citizenship skills.
- Service-learning has a positive effect on commitment to service
Benefits for Career Development

- Students and faculty report that service-learning has a positive impact on students’ academic learning.
- Students and faculty report that service-learning improves students’ ability to apply what they have learned in the “real world”.
- Service learning has an impact on critical thinking, problem analysis, cognitive development.
- Service learning contributes to career development.
- Service learning improves student satisfaction with college.
- Students involved in service-learning are more likely to graduate.
Effective Practice

- Laying the foundation with your community partners
- Set clear expectations with students
- Don’t expect everything to go right!
- Reflection (the key component)


- Journaling
- Poetry
- Songs
- Storytelling
- Art work
- Videos
- Photo’s....
Reflection

- Without reflection, service-learning has little merit as an instructional tool.

- It is through the process of structuring and guiding a student’s reflective process where teachers can help students extract lessons from their community experiences.

- Reflection is generally considered to be the most critical step in linking the service & learning components of a service-learning course.
Creating a Syllabus

http://compact.org/resource-type/syllabi/
http://www.highpoint.edu/servicelearning/sample-syllabi/
https://www.cpcc.edu/service-learning/faculty-staff/service-learning-syllabi

Faculty Service-Learning Modules:

Awesome Resource

http://www.fresnostate.edu/academics/cesl/facultysl/index.html
Helpful Websites


http://compact.org/

https://www.uvm.edu/~dewey/reflection_manual/
Examples

Project Ideas

Examples from UALR

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