

SERVICE LEARNING

Service Learning (also known as "engaged", "applied" learning, or community engagement) involves a service component that allows the student to apply new knowledge and acquire practical skills. Through course work, the student employs critical analysis and examines a systemic problem or societal issue the service was designed to address and that relates to the student's academic focus or the course in which the student is enrolled. Service Learning is a proven and highly effective teaching tool and method. Research reveals that Service Learning experiences enhance broader learning outcomes, increase student retention, make learning more relevant, foster civic participation, provide opportunities for career exploration and preparation, and overall, improve timely graduation rates.

Some faculty members participate by integrating service into course curricula that directly ties to specific course goals and objectives. This method helps students make clear connections between the relevance of their academic experience and their future professional lives in society.

Mission/Purpose Statement

To improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and learning.

Goals:

1. Increase student engagement to enhance student learning
2. Foster civic and personal responsibility and
3. Develop an environment of collegial participation

LSSC Serve to Learn Student Goals

General Education Competen	Analytical Thinking	Communication	Independence	Leadership and Teamwork	Social Responsibility	Creativity
Personal Goals	Problem solving	Public speaking skills	Patience	Decision making skills	Awareness of diversity and cultural pluralism	Relationship building skills
Civic Goals	Assessment of community needs and public service	Promotion of service learning to community organizations	Independence of service to local non-profit organizations	Application of service skills	Service to local community and LSSC	Partnership with professional and academic resources
Academic Goals	Critical and creative thinking	Critical and creative thinking	Connections of research and scholarship to real-world applications	Selection, design, and implementation of objectives to meet community needs	Empowerment of students through community service	Promotion of awareness of student and faculty resources