

CLEVELAND STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SLE 2400 and 2500 Service-Learning Project
3 credit hours each

Instructors:

Susan Webb-Curtis, Associate Professor/Director of Cooperative Education
Debbie Felton, Reading/Learning Strategies Instructor and Coordinator of the Freshmen Experience

Office Hours and Contact Information: (To Insert Information)

Text:

“Service-Learning Guide and Journal, Higher Education Edition” by Robert Max Schoenfeld, 2004.

Other Resources:

Through Online@CSCC, service-learning students will be provided with links to documents and websites designed to assist with understanding of service-learning, reflective journaling, and developing a volunteer action plan, as well as appropriate volunteer placement behavior and various service-learning program forms.

Course Overview:

This course is designed to promote experiential learning for Cleveland State students while advancing the college’s mission of enhancing quality of life and encouraging civic involvement. Students enrolled in SLE 2400 will be oriented to the concept of service-learning through participation in a semester-long service project and monthly seminars. Students will actively participate in an existing service project –or— plan and implement a service project designed to meet a community need. The student will reflect on their experiences in class discussions and a reflection journal/portfolio. The student will complete 50 hours of service during the semester. Students seeking to continue their community service experience or to start a new community service experience can enroll for SLE 2500 and complete an additional 50 hours of service.

Course Objective:

Through the community placement and class seminars, the course will help the student develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and reflective skills, and will strive to increase the student’s understanding of community and societal needs.

Learning Outcomes:

As a result of class activities in this course the student should:

- Identify and analyze a socially significant need in the local community.
- Acquire valuable skills in areas of leadership, communication, group interaction, cooperation, critical thinking skills, and problem solving.
- Learn about nonprofit, not-for-profit (city, county, state, and federal), and for-profit service agencies and their roles in serving the community.
- Network with individuals from diverse backgrounds and develop professional contacts in the community.
- Enjoy an enhanced collegiate experience as a result of the real-life interaction in their community.
- Learn the process of reflective thinking and journaling.

Assessments:

- Journaling—Using the Service-Learning Guide & Journal, the student will regularly reflect on the service-learning experience—20 points
- Reflection Seminar and Interagency Council Participation—20 points
- Service/Site Work—40 points
- Blogs/Discussions—20 points

Evaluation and Grading Procedures:

Specific assignment deadlines are attached to this syllabus. Any assignment turned in after the deadline for that specific assignment, without prior approval of the instructor, will be counted as late and 5 points will be deducted from that individual assignment's grade.

NO assignments will be accepted after (insert date) without extenuating circumstances and prior approval of instructor. Grading scale: A—90 to 100, B—80 to 89, C—70 to 79, D—60 to 69, F—59 & below.

Attendance Policy: This is an independent study course, however, please pay close attention to the due dates for assignments attached to this syllabus. Additionally, if you experience difficulty with an assignment, you should contact one of the instructors for assistance.

Course Communication: In addition to participating in an initial course orientation, service-learning students should regularly check their CougarNet email and Online@CSCC for communications from their instructors and to contribute to class discussion boards. This is a requirement of this independent study class.

Withdrawal Information: The last date to withdraw from this course is (insert date). The refund policy is outlined in the college catalog.

Disability Statement: If, because of a documented disability you require assistance or reasonable accommodations to complete assigned course work (such as modifications in testing, readers, special equipment, etc.) you must register with Disability Support Services and notify your instructor within the first two weeks of the semester. Disability Support is located in the ACCESS Center (Student Center Room 118, 423-478-6217 or 1-800-604-2722, Ext. 217).

Academic Integrity: Cleveland State students are required, as a condition of good standing and continued enrollment, to conduct themselves properly in their community service setting. Such proper behavior includes academic honesty, civility, and respect for others and private property. Please refer to the Student Handbook portion of the catalog for further information.

Holidays: (Insert Holidays)

Reflection Seminars: (Insert Dates)