

University of Hawai`i-West O`ahu

Community Engagement and Service Learning Course Characteristics and Outcomes

Recommended course characteristics:

- Include a minimum of 20 hrs. of service participation per semester.
- Service projects have clear and specific learning objectives related to course content.
- Instructors work with participants to draw the connections between the service that participants are providing and what they should be learning.
- Students are given organized time during the course to reflect on their service.
- Service learning projects are based in strong partnerships with community groups that include mutually agreed upon goals, roles and responsibilities.
- Learning expectations and service are emphasized in all projects.

Recommended Student Outcomes:

Student

- demonstrates a heightened awareness of their community and understanding of community needs, problems and resources.
- describes the quality and quantity of their interactions in their community, to include their attitude about their service experience and benefits gained both for student and community partner based on students service.
- expresses increased sensitivity to a community with which they are unfamiliar.
- makes clear connections between course content and their community service.
- describes career directions they might follow as a result of their service.
- develops new communication skills needed to work with community.
- recognizes personal weaknesses and strengths relative to their service.
- changes previously held beliefs as a result of their work with the community.
- recognizes community partner as expert and is compelled to provide partner with quality work.
- identifies changing roles of instructor, peers, and partners in terms of learning and teaching.

Responsibilities:

- Students record and verify their service using the appropriate forms
- Student records (timelog and sign-up forms) are turned in by the faculty to the Community Engagement and Service Learning director at the end of each semester.
- Faculty collect and turn in Assumption of Risk and Release forms to the Community Engagement and Service Learning director