

Center for Community Involvement Service-Learning Overview

Service-Learning: The combination of community service and classroom instruction, with a focus on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility.

- **Benefits of service-learning for students:**

- Enhance learning
- Connect theory to practice
- Provide scholarship opportunities
- Provide opportunity to explore majors & careers
- Foster a sense civic responsibility
- Enhance resume
- Encourage life-long commitment to service
- Enhance employability
- Provide Job offers, scholarships, self-esteem, etc....

- **Benefits of Utilizing Service-Learning for faculty:**

- Enhance student learning (more engaged students)
- Reinvigorate teaching
- Improve relationships with students
- Increase professional development
- Provide research/publishing opportunities
- Offer a sense of making a difference

- **How the Center for Community Involvement serves faculty:**

- Recruits/supports service-learning faculty
- Offers assistance on how to integrate service-learning into your course
- Helps faculty with all service-learning logistics (paperwork, monitoring students, etc.)
- Provides students and faculty with a list of more than 200 non-profit partners
- Visits classes to make presentations about service-learning
- Offers faculty workshops and educational opportunities
- Coordinates Volunteer Fair with Student Life Office
- Provides thank you letters to students and faculty
- Provides certificates to students and faculty

Discover:

- What service-learning is.
- What the primary goals of service-learning are.
- How service-learning differs from volunteerism.
- Why this program commands national attention.
- How service-learning fits into MDC's mission.
- How it can benefit both you and your students.
- What "reflection" is and its relationship to service-learning.
- Specific reflection techniques you can use with your students.
- How your students can participate in service-learning.
- What assessment methods are appropriate.

For additional information, contact:

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The Center for Community Involvement Will Provide:

- *Individual consultation on integrating service-learning into your course*
- *Class presentations per your needs and requests*
- *Student handbooks for all participants*
- *A comprehensive list of approved service-learning sites appropriate for your course*
- *Placement and tracking of all students*
- *Regular reports regarding student status and progress*
- *Telephone check-in calls to students*
- *Mid-term and end-of-term thank you letters for every student*
- *Service-learning certificate for every student*
- *Problem solving/quality control*
- *A campus-wide “Forum on Civic Responsibility” open to all students and faculty*

**MIAMI DADE COLLEGE
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAM**

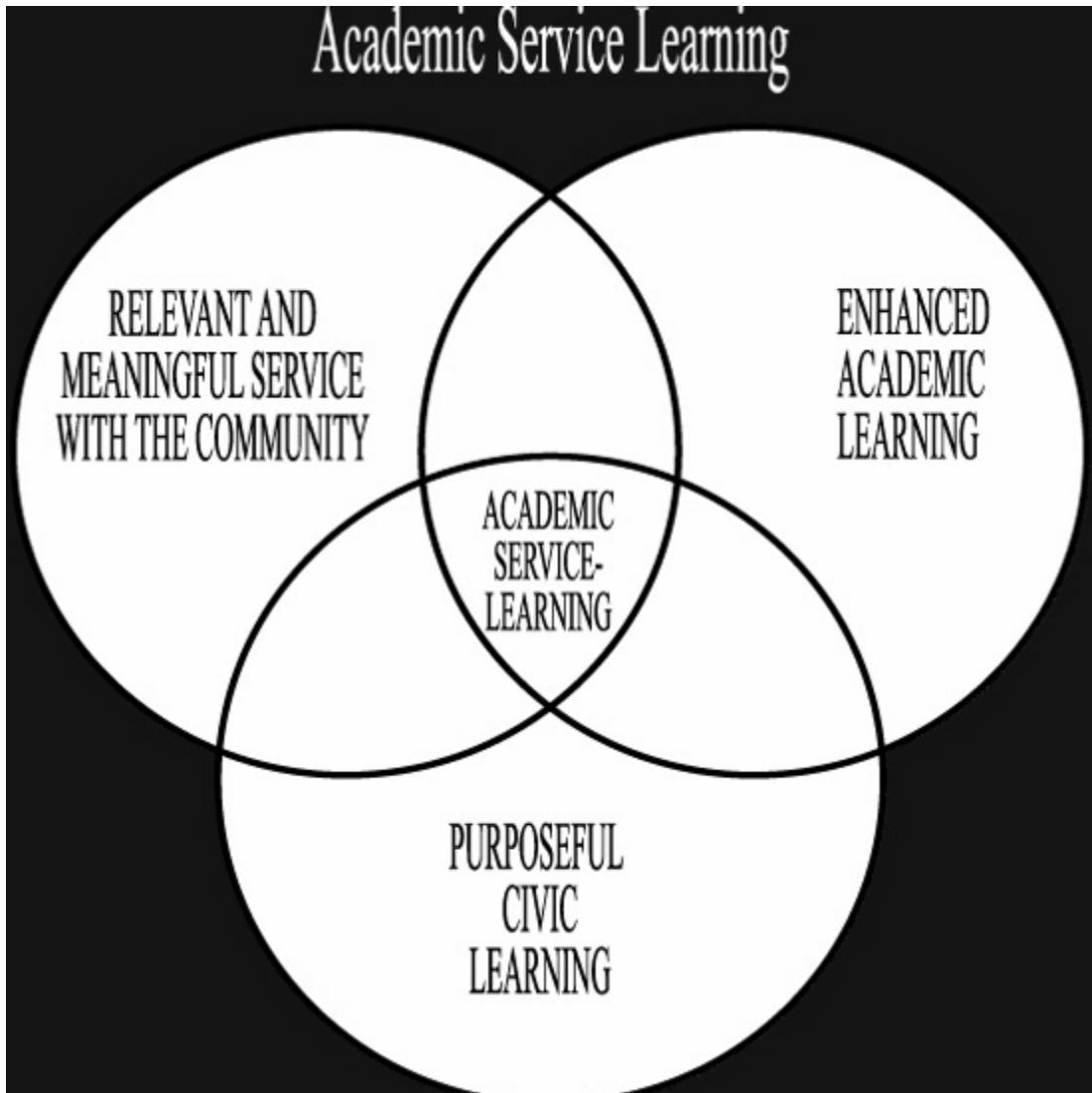
What is Service-learning?

Service-learning is an instructional method that combines formal coursework with thoughtfully organized community service experiences. Service-learning addresses community-identified needs while helping students meet academic, social and civic learning goals.

Through service and guided reflection, students learn about themselves and their relationship to the community around them. Service-learning allows students to engage with real-world issues and social problems, and to work with community organizations to become "part of the solution."

We believe that:

- Miami Dade College students, as future leaders of our community, deserve a real world education that inspires social responsibility and encourages compassion for all
- Miami Dade College should be a responsible, engaged member of the local community
- Academic learning is strengthened by engaging in meaningful service and reflection
- Education at Miami Dade College should be transformative; creating ethical and responsible community participants
- All partners in the service-learning process should be engaged in teaching and learning, serving and being served



Relevant and Meaningful Service With the Community – there must be service provided in the community that is both relevant and meaningful to all stakeholders.

Enhanced Academic Learning – the addition of relevant and meaningful service with the community must not only serve the community but also enhance student academic learning in the course.

Purposeful Civic Learning – the addition of relevant and meaningful service with the community must not only serve the community and enhance academic learning in the course, but also directly and intentionally prepare students for active civic participation in a diverse democratic society.

Applications of Service-Learning

Marketing students create and implement a marketing plan for a non-profit organization.

Accounting students support non-profits in grant research and monitoring, processing payroll related duties, and by assisting in daily accounting practices.

Computer Information Systems students work with local non-profits by mapping networks, recommending security procedures, setting up active directories, and creating and administering various user and group accounts. Students can also configure and implement Microsoft Windows applications using Remote Installation Services.

English as a Second Language students practice their English skills by working with senior citizens; tutoring and mentoring elementary school students; participating in group community activities.

Education students research, create, and provide free take-home brochures, book marks, and magnets on teaching techniques for a working parent, scholarships, programs for students with special needs and public assistance information. The information will then be furnished to low-income families at social service agencies and public schools.

History students complete oral histories with senior citizens, create booklet, and hold event to celebrate the participants.

Intro to Computers students help teach at a local technology center.

English Composition students help a non-profit write manuals/brochures; organize writing contest on civic responsibility for high school students; choose an issue, serve, and do all their writing about their service...

Psychology students work with a victim service program to provide crisis intervention to crime victims by way of phone or on-site contact. They become court advocates for domestic violence victims, and facilitate groups for at-risk youth in the school system.