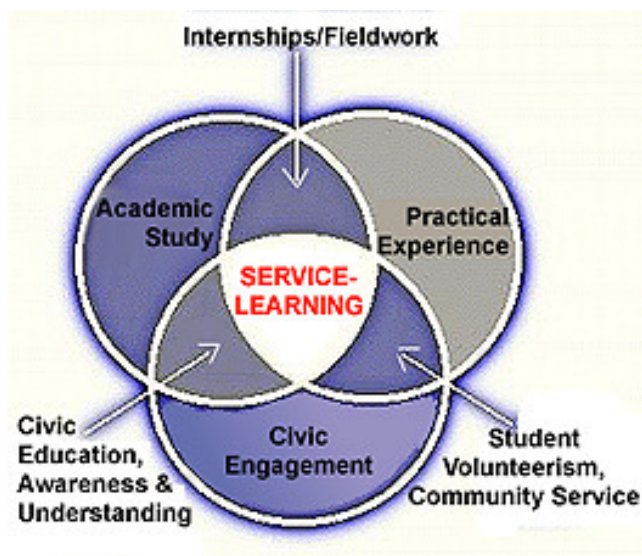


SERVICE-LEARNING DEFINITION¹

Service-learning is a method by which young people learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized experiences that. . . .

- Meet actual community needs
- Coordinate in collaboration with the school and community
- Integrate into each young person's academic curriculum
- Provide structured time for a young person to think, talk, and write about what he/she did and saw during the actual service activity
- Provide young people with opportunities to use newly acquired academic skills and knowledge in real life situations in their own communities
- Are a practical application of what is taught in the school
- Help to foster the development of a sense of caring for others

SERVICE-LEARNING MODEL



[Source: Campus Compact model, February Pre-conference workshop on Service-Learning at the Western States Communication Association 2000 Conference, Sacramento, California.]

¹ Alliance for Service-Learning in Education Reform (ASLER), http://closeup.org/servlern/sl_asler.htm.

STANDARDS FOR SERVICE- LEARNING PROGRAMS

The Alliance for Service-learning in Education Report lists the following standards of quality for School Based Service-learning Programs.

1. Effective service-learning efforts strengthen service and academic learning.
2. Model service-learning and reflection are essential elements in service-learning
3. Preparation and reflection are essential elements in service-learning.
4. Students efforts are recognized by their peers and the community they serve.
5. Youth are involved in the planning.
6. The service students perform makes a meaningful contribution to the community.
7. Effective service-learning integrates systematic formative and summative evaluation.
8. Service-learning connects school and its community in new and positive ways.
9. Service-learning is understood and supported as an integral element in the life of a school and its community.
10. Skilled adult guidance and supervision is essential to the success of service-learning.
11. Pre-service and staff development that includes the philosophy and methodology of service-learning to ensure that program quality and continuity are maintained.