

Mission of Service Learning

California State University, Los Angeles is committed to providing students with opportunities for service learning, which (1) promotes student learning and strengthens a sense of citizenship through an integration of academic study and community service; and (2) develops productive partnerships between the university and communities through the provision of meaningful community service.



Make a Difference
Learning Through Service



The Office of Service Learning

The Office of Service Learning serves as the focal point for service learning activities on campus. In a unique partnership between the Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Affairs, the office is housed in the Educational Participation in Communities (EPIC) program, which has an impressive 35-year history of working with faculty and community partners in facilitating the involvement of students in meaningful community service activities. The EPIC staff works closely with the Faculty Director for Service Learning in promoting service learning and engaging faculty and students in service learning activities. The Office provides support to faculty in developing and teaching service learning courses, offers training workshops and symposia, assists faculty in identifying appropriate community agency placements, and serves as a resource center for faculty and students.



California State University, Los Angeles
Service Learning

(323) 343-3374

www.calstatela.edu

or

www.calstatela.edu/servicelearning



California State University, Los Angeles

Service Learning



Service Learning at Cal State L.A.

Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that provides students with organized and meaningful experiences outside the classroom that are designed to enhance their understanding of information, knowledge and theoretical principles shared in the classroom.

It is a pedagogical model that links course content with a community service component that addresses the needs identified by the community, whether local or global. It also integrates course content with community involvement to develop and strengthen students' commitment to social responsibility and civic engagement.



Learning objectives include:

- Enhancing student learning by integrating theory with meaningful community service
- Enabling students to recognize and appreciate the relevance of course content in the "real world"
- Addressing needs identified by community-based agencies through meaningful community service
- Better enabling students to critically reflect upon the relationships between their actions and the world around them
- Increasing students' understanding of communities and the agencies that serve them



Students who enroll in service learning courses are expected to:

- Develop mastery of course content through integration of subject matter with community-service experiences
- Increase their awareness of community-based agencies' goals, needs, strategies, and infrastructures



- Enhance their ability to think critically about the relationship between their service and the broader community
- Build a stronger sense of community and commitment to social responsibility

