Building Community: Promoting Real-World Applications in the Classroom

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Building University-Community Partnerships for Resilience
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What is Service-Learning?

- Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

(Learn and Serve America National Service Learning Clearinghouse).
So you’re going to do service-learning?
And then you start planning...
Challenges

• Time-consuming
• More prep time
• Dealing with clients
• Finding the right fit for your class
• My class is online
• Project logistics
So why do it?

• Builds upon and enhances course concepts
• Helps students understand the relevance of what they’re learning
• Promotes civic engagement
So why do it?
Think about a class you teach...

- Assigned readings
- Foundational course concepts
- Demonstration of proficiency in subject area
Think about a class you teach...

- This is hard...
- I don’t understand what I’m reading...
- Am I ever going to use this is real life?
So why do it?

• Builds upon and enhances course concepts
• Helps students understand the **relevance** of what they’re learning
• Promotes civic engagement
YOUR TURN!
Let’s Start Planning Your Service-Learning Experience

• Think about a course you’re teaching
  – How many students?
  – Course delivery? (F2F, online, blended)
  – What challenges do students encounter with course content?
  – What challenges do you encounter with delivering course content?
ODU Example

Old Dominion University Catalog

IDT - Instructional Design/Technol

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN/TECHNOL Courses

IDT 837. Consulting Skills for Instructional Designers. 3 Credits.
Lecture, 3 hours. 3 credits. This project-based course is designed to develop and enhance the ability of instructional designers to work as partners and consultants to clients and superiors. The focus is on consulting skills per se, and not any particular content. All students will be required to do an individual consulting project, supervised by the instructor.

IDT 839. Needs Analysis and Assessment. 3 Credits.
Desired Learning Outcomes

- Identify performance problems, opportunities, and needs.
- Develop and negotiate a consulting proposal.
- Make appropriate recommendations.
- Maintain a positive client relationship throughout a consulting process.

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What are your desirable learning outcomes?
Let’s Start Planning Your Service-Learning Experience

• How do you want to scale your project?
  – One day event?
  – Semester long experience?
  – Individual projects/Group?
  – How involved do you want to be in the process?
Identifying a Community Partner

• Are there any community organizations that you’re aware of that could benefit from your class?
Identifying a Community Partner
Location of the Non-Profit

- Near Student
- Near Campus
- 100% Virtual
Memorandum of Understanding

✓ Needs of client & goals of project
✓ Boundaries of the project
✓ Needed Information & Access
✓ Roles on the project: client, instructor, and student
✓ Required client support
✓ Product / Service Deliverable
✓ Time Schedule (Milestones)
✓ Intellectual property
✓ Confidentiality statement
What about assessment?

Photo Credit: T Hall https://www.flickr.com/photos/tmh9/245066417/
Course Contract With Students

✓ Client Description
✓ Context for Project
✓ Client Needs
✓ Goals for Project
✓ Product / Service Deliverable(s)
✓ Project Management Protocols
✓ Student Reflection Parameters
Assessment

Peer Input

Client Input

Student Input
Final Thought

Disposable Assignments
Contact Information

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