**Service Learning (SL) Course Designation Application**

The Service Learning Committee invites increased participation by College faculty and staff in developing opportunities for students to serve and engage with their community through coursework and extracurricular activities.

One excellent way to provide these opportunities for students is to develop a service learning (SL) course in your discipline, or to develop a SL component to an existing course you already teach.

The following requirements are provided to help you develop your SL course. If you have any questions, please contact Malynda Bjerregaard (Service Learning Coordinator, 283-7423).

# Requirements for a Service Learning Course:

**1)** The course includes a service learning or civic engagement activity that comprises a significant component of the course.

**2)** Students in the class provide an instructor-approved service to the community —local, regional, global, etc. (this could include community organizations or individuals)—that addresses a real, demonstrated community need.

**3)** The course integrates action and reflection. That is, it combines a substantial service learning activity with critical examination of theory or application of disciplinary concepts and skills relevant to that activity. Students will be required to write a reflective paper (or comparable exercise) in which they relate the activity to the disciplinary content being discussed in the course. It is also expected that some class time will be devoted to discussion of what students learn through the activity and how it relates to course content and objectives.

**4)** As student time commitments will depend on the nature of the service or engagement component of the course, there is no set minimum number of required service hours. It is recommended your hours are between 6-15 but that can vary depending on the intensity of the project integration.

# Defining Service: (What types of activities “count”?)

Two principlesguide what counts as service: the community engagement of students should **1) assist the chosen community in meeting its needs** and **2) encourage students to step outside their own social networks**(defined as people with whom a student already regularly interacts: friends, family, etc.). Students may perform service for community groups, nonprofits, civic organizations, government agencies, and non-partisan political organizations.

Additionally, service for the Snow College community and for individuals can count as long as principles 1 and 2 apply. While it is valuable, service within religious groups and political parties does not fulfill principle 2 and does not meet the requirements for SL course designation or Service Scholar hours (unless the service performed benefits people outside the denomination or political party).

**Examples:**

**Approved projects:** helping at a Head Start daycare during parent-teacher conferences, educating students about alcohol abuse or sustainability, cleaning up trash along a community road, or participating in a nonpartisan political movement, community research for roads or water, helping students and community register to vote.

**Non-approved projects:** babysitting for a family member, talking with a roommate about her problems, shoveling snow at your church before Sunday meetings, or campaigning for a political candidate.

**Please complete the following page, either handwritten or typed separately, and submit it to Malynda Bjerregaard (LPB 202; 283-7423) or drop it by the SAGE center in the Humanities Building (HU 170) Monday-Friday from 12-5.**



**Service Learning (SL) Course Designation Application**

Please fill out this application for your course to be evaluated and approved for SL designation.

**Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Department:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Course Title:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Course Number:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Course Description:**

How will students’ service experience relate to the course’s subject matter or key objectives?

What existing need will the service address and, if known, who are the stakeholders or partner(s) involved?

Will service learning be optional or required? Please explain.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

How will you assess the SL project, or how will volunteer work be evaluated?

Will there be a certain number of hours required for a student to receive SL credit? If so how many?

How will credit be awarded for the course’s service component? (percentage of grade, optional test or project replacement, etc.)

How will reflection happen? (ex: journals, papers, log books, in-class discussion or presentations, etc.)

What is the objective for the student to learn from the experience?

What Pathway of Civic Engagement would you think the Service Learning component incorporated in your class fits? *(Direct Service, Philanthropy, Community Organizing and Activism, Community Engaged Learning and Research, Policy and Governance, Social Entrepreneurship and Corporate Social Responsibility)*

**Instructor signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please Submit this application to: Malynda Bjerregaard LPB 202 or SAGE Center HU 170 from 12-5 Monday-Friday.