Service Learning Program
Spring 2016 Reflection Sessions

Reflection is an integral part of service learning and student attendance for at least one session is HIGHLY recommended. Check with your professor to find out if attendance at a reflection session is required for the course. You are welcome to attend more than one reflection session. Mark your calendars now and be sure to save the date for the topic(s) that relate to your course. These reflections are specifically geared towards service learning experiences. We hope to see you there! Please note if you do not RSVP for a reflection session, you will not be allowed entry. You MUST RSVP to gain entry into a reflection session.

Please RSVP for reflection sessions that you plan to attend at:
http://www.marquette.edu/servicelearning/service-learning-reflection-form.php

**Arriving more than 15 minutes late or leaving more than 15 minutes early will not be counted as a reflection attendance. **

Introduction to Service Learning and our Milwaukee Community
Wednesday, February 3rd, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 227
This session is strongly encouraged for those who have never participated in Service Learning.

Students who are new to service learning are highly encouraged to attend this session in order to learn about expectations and strategies for getting the most from this academic learning experience. Service Learning is a unique opportunity to integrate your learning between your traditional classroom and your community classroom, but what should you be doing as a student to help make those important connections? Hear from veteran service learning students about their experiences around navigating their organizations, building relationships with community members, writing reflection papers, and moving outside of their comfort zones. This session will give you a brief historical overview of Milwaukee, help you explore ways to positively interact with the organization you will serve, and help you examine your own comfort levels before you begin service.

DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN MILWAUKEE: After the reflection session there will be an additional discussion on public transportation in Milwaukee. Students who have never utilized public transportation are encouraged to attend this discussion. Staff will be on hand to help students with bus, taxi, and carpool concerns and questions.

The Media’s Impact On Personal Perceptions
Wednesday, February 17th, 5:00pm-6:30pm, AMU 163
Different forms of media are vehicles of information that we depend on for a variety of reasons. We are constantly stimulated with opinions, stories, tweets, Facebook posts about people and events in the world. Media is often used to spread positive and negative messages about different groups of people and world events. It can also perpetuate stereotypes and influence our personal perceptions. How does media affect our perceptions of communities and people different from us? How does this information, or misinformation, impact our service learning experiences and abilities to build relationships in our community?

What Does Race Have To Do With It?
Wednesday, March 2nd, 5:30pm-7:00pm, AMU 227
Our racial identity affects how we serve, our perceptions of the people and organizations we serve, and how the people and organizations perceive us. Though sometimes uncomfortable, critical discussion of racial identity and service must happen if we are to engage in authentic relationships. When thinking about various oppressed groups of people, everyone has some type of privilege. White privilege and privileges that exist for people of color will be the topic of discussion. How does recognizing our own privileges help us in developing greater cultural competency, and why is it so important?
**Sexism In Our Society**
Sunday, March 13th, 3:30pm-5:00pm, AMU 227

At your service learning sites you have the opportunity to observe the feminization of poverty, cultural stereotypes of masculinity and femininity, and barriers that our society creates based on gender. During this session, you will discuss personal experiences and observations from your service learning experience regarding gender roles in our society, particularly when it creates social justice issues.

**Integrating my Service with my Coursework**
Thursday, March 31st, 4:30pm-6:00pm, AMU 227

Service Learning is a teaching and learning method designed to help students practice, test, observe, feel, question, and connect what they are learning in the classroom to real life experience. Sometimes those connections are obvious, and sometimes they require students to be assertive and do some digging and reflection. In this session we will discuss the connections we are seeing between our academic coursework and our community service experiences. Students should come ready to explore what they have learned this semester and how their learning has grown as a result of their service learning experience. This session will also provide ideas for writing meaningful service learning reflection papers and final assignments. Attendees are asked to bring a copy of the syllabus for their service learning course.

**Solidarity Through Service**
Friday, April 8th, 1:00pm-2:30pm, AMU 227

Founder of Homeboy Industries, Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J. writes, “There is no ‘them’ and ‘us.’ There is only us.” Community service is at the forefront of our University’s mission, but if not done in the spirit of kinship and solidarity, it can only perpetuate the power dynamics of inequality. This session will discuss the “savior complex” and the danger in trying to “help” without seeing our interconnectedness. As Fr. Boyle asks, how do we obliterate the notion that we are separate? Our goal through service learning should be to create kinship, which will lead to justice and peace. How can we approach our engagement with our community in this manner?

**Using Our Privilege To Further Justice**
Monday, April 18th, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 163
-OR-
Tuesday, April 26th, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 157

Learning and having dialogue about systems of oppression should parallel conversations about the privileges that exist for non-oppressed people. Privilege exists based on race and skin color, sexuality, mental/physical ability, and/or income, etc. Encountering our privilege hopefully leads us to think about our own call to action-things we can do to start the momentum for change. Through coursework, service alongside community partners, and/or reflection sessions, you have talked about a variety of injustices. It is now time to discuss ways to make a meaningful change using our own privilege. What little things can you do to make a change and remedy the injustices you see on a daily basis? This session will help you figure out ways to use your privilege to further justice.

*Please note that you should only attend one of these two sessions. You will not receive double credit for attending both. Final reflections will be capped at 100 students per session.*

*Attendance will be recorded and provided to professors at the end of the semester.*