Service Learning Program
Fall 2017 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 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. Arriving more than 15 minutes late or leaving more than 15 minutes early will not be counted as a reflection attendance.

Use the following link to sign-up for reflection sessions: http://www.marquette.edu/servicelearning/ReflectionSessions.shtml

Introduction to Service Learning and our Milwaukee Community
Wednesday, September 13th, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 157
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.

**This session is strongly encouraged for those who have never participated in Service Learning.**

Exploring Our Prejudices, Bias, and Stereotypes
Tuesday, September 26th, 5:00pm-6:30pm, AMU 157
The prejudices, bias, and stereotypes we hold blur our ability to develop relationships within our community and prevent us from seeing the bigger picture. How do we go beyond understanding those different from us as ‘others’? During this session, participants will reflect on what it means when our prejudices, bias, and stereotypes go unchecked while working in communities different from our own. How have our current life experiences shaped the prejudices, bias, and stereotypes we hold about different populations? We will discuss how we can reframe our thinking and change our narrative about the people we live and work with daily.

Health Disparities In Milwaukee
Tuesday, October 10th, 5:00pm-6:30pm, Aurora Research Institute-Steigleder Auditorium (960 N. 12th Street)
Health disparities impact various communities in different ways. A person’s health affects their ability to live fully. During this session you will hear from Dr. Cynthia Haq, MD, Professor of Family, Director of TRIUMPH and current TRIUMPH students as they discuss health disparities: what they are, why they matter and what we can do to reduce them. Following the presentation, with TRIUMPH students, you will share experiences and lessons learned working in the Milwaukee community this semester. You will also learn more about efforts Milwaukee is taking to reduce health disparities. Come to this reflection session with an open mind and questions to help you better understand the impact health disparities have on populations of people in Milwaukee.
Understanding Classism
Monday, October 23rd, 5:30pm-7:00pm AMU 157

How aware are you of your social class? Social class or perceived social class can impact all aspects of your life: health, psyche, education, employment, etc. With the increasing wealth gap, it is important to think about the role classism plays in the way we view communities. Is it really as simple as “working hard” and “pulling yourself up by your bootstraps” to build wealth? Classism comes in many different forms other than money and systems of oppressions continue to perpetuate classism every day in communities. Come learn what social class and classism is and discuss with your peers the ways classism shows up in your service learning experience and affects the relationships you build within the Milwaukee community.

Unpacking Internal Dilemmas
Thursday, November 9th, 1:00pm-2:30pm AMU 157

Your service learning experience can push you outside your comfort zone and into situations that could challenge or reinforce your values and morals. In this session, you will discuss how the service learning experience has awoken new understandings. How has your service learning experience expanded your viewpoints? Where did the experience create internal tensions for you? What have you seen or felt through your experience that is contrary to what you once thought? How will this experience shape your decisions going forward? During this session we will share some of our internal dilemmas and our greatest learning. Together we will discuss how this experience has shaped our values going forward.

Vocation and Purpose
Sunday, November 19th, 3:30pm-5:00pm AMU 157

Vocation is the call to live life with intention, integrity, and generosity in the context of the world around us; in this way, vocation is our purpose in life. Alternatively, vocation is also used to describe one’s career path. This reflection will allow you to reflect on your values and find a way of life that exemplifies these values – a life that’s true to who you are, but about more than just yourself. During this session you will delve into the connections between your service learning experience and intended career path and how you can utilize your service learning experience as a means to connect your greater purpose and professional vocations.

Ally and Accomplice
Wednesday, November 29th, 6:00pm-7:30pm, AMU 157
-OR-
Wednesday, December 6th, 7:00pm-8:30pm, AMU 157

Within social justice conversations, many people want to know how they can be good allies. The concept of allyship has received both praise and criticism. What are the qualifications of a “good ally”? Some people argue that social justice movements need accomplices (not in the criminal sense), but what does being an accomplice for social justice really mean? Both require more self-education and action if social change is going to happen. During this final reflection session, you will take all you’ve learn in your coursework and in the community to explore the next steps in advocating for social change in your community. You will discuss what it means to be an ally and/or accomplice for social justice.

**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 is recorded and provided to professors at the end of the semester.