

Service Learning Program

Spring 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, February 1st, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 227

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. ***

Individual Choice or Systemic, Historic Denial?

Wednesday, February 15th, 5:00pm-6:30pm, AMU 163

Systems of oppression remain a pervasive force in America and the world, but why? During this session, you will discuss the root causes of various social justice issues. You will have an opportunity to learn how those root causes not only affect you but the people you work with on a daily basis. Explore how being knowledgeable about the root cause of social justice can impact your way of thinking and the relationships you build during your service learning experience.

Closer Look: Ableism

Wednesday, March 1st, 5:30pm-7:00pm, AMU 227

“Ableism is defined as a set of practices and beliefs that assign inferior value (worth) to people who have developmental, emotional, physical or psychiatric disabilities. An ableist society is said to be one that treats non-disabled individuals as the standard of ‘normal living’, which results in public and private places and services, education, and social work that are built to serve ‘standard’ people, thereby inherently excluding those with various disabilities (www.stopableism.org).” During this reflection session, students will discuss and examine how ableism is perpetuated on a daily basis in society. Students will also examine ways they develop relationships and work with non-abled bodied people. Lastly, students will describe ways their own actions can promote a more inclusive environment.

Building An Anti-Racist Society

Sunday, March 5th, 3:30pm-5:00pm, AMU 227

Your racial identity affects how you serve, your perceptions of the people and organizations you serve. Though sometimes uncomfortable, critical discussions of race must happen if we are to engage in authentic relationships and work towards an anti-racist society. During this session, you will discuss and give examples of how the pervasive nature of white privilege and white supremacy affect you, your service learning experience, and society as a whole. Lastly, you will learn and give examples on ways you can advocate to create an anti-racist society.

Sexism In Our Society

Thursday, March 30th, 4:30pm-6:00pm, 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.

Connecting Your Vocation With Your Service Learning Experience

Friday, April 7th, 1:00pm-2:30pm, AMU 227

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.

Now What? Moving From Charity to Justice

Monday, April 10th, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 163

-OR-

Tuesday, April 25th, 6:30pm-8:00pm, AMU 157

Through a semester of service learning, you learned about the root causes of social inequality. You learned about the Milwaukee community and resources provided to communities of people. You applied what you learned within your service to what you were learning in the classroom. Now what? How do you make a lasting impact and continue laying the groundwork for effective change? This reflection session will discuss and answer some of these questions. We define both "charity" and "justice" and then work to understand the pros and cons of both. You will reflect on your service learning experience and think about ways your vocation can help work for 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 will be recorded and provided to professors at the end of the semester.