Integrating Service-Learning is Easier Than You Think!

Dr. Gina L. Solano
Department of Secondary Education & Educational Technology
HELLO!

I am Dr. Gina L. Solano
I am passionate about educational technology and service-learning.

You can find me at gina.solano@oneonta.edu
What is service-learning?

Let's start with a definition...
“Service-learning is an educational methodology that combines community-based experiences with explicit academic learning objectives and deliberate reflection” (Gelmon & Holland, 2018)
Benefits of Service-Learning

- Reinforces course and learning objectives
- Interaction with diverse populations
- Improved social skills
- Develops empathy, awareness and understanding
- Builds concern regarding community issues
- Improves student motivation
- Provides additional hands-on learning and networking opportunities

(Rosenkranz, 2012).
“Service-Learning is practiced at over 1,000 universities and by over two million college students nationwide”

(Benefits of Service-learning, 2021)
Service-Learning can be connected to a course, offered in addition to a course, and as a study abroad program.

**Course**

These type of programs focus on students providing community service that also completes course objectives. They make a big impact locally.

**Campus**

Many higher ed campuses have robust service-learning programs with graduation incentives and special diplomas. They typically offer many service options so students can accumulate hours, or just participate because they love it.

**Global**

If you enjoy traveling with your students, there are many types of mission and service trips that you can direct. Several college travel companies, such as EF Tours, provides service trips and do all the work for you. You just need to recruit the students.
This program involved teacher education majors as volunteer tutors to help individuals in the local drug court program obtain their GEDs.
International Service-Learning in Ghana, Africa

This program combined education and respiratory therapy majors who provided service and donations to hospitals and schools.
EDUC 581 Principles of Instructional Design & Learning Theory

Students are required to complete a 20 hour service-learning project of designing, recruiting, and teaching a technology professional development workshop.

Assignment Directions
Campus to Community Connection

- If you don’t know where to find community partners, visit the SUNY Oneonta Service-Learning Center.
- Get your course approved to carry a SL Designation!
- Connect with the Center for Social Responsibility and Community (CSRC) to find non-profits in our community that are looking for help.
Examples from Former Students

Module 3 Project: Service-Learning Activity

Module 3 Project: OneNote Professional Development

Service Learning Activity

Marvelous Student
EDUC 694
January 21, 2020

By: Awesome Grad Student
EDUC 694 Technology for School Improvement
INCORPORATING SERVICE-LEARNING INTO YOUR CURRICULUM CAN MAKE YOU A SOCIAL-JUSTICE ADVOCATE

It doesn’t take much effort to resign a project and require your students to provide service. There will always be a place to serve and invaluable lessons to learn.
References

