Community Service

Community service promotes active citizenship and addresses community needs through active volunteer service. For students enrolled in the Freshman Year Experience II course at Savannah State University, community service is an education process which involves students in their own learning process as they give ten hours of valuable community service to the Savannah/Chatham County community. Through this active involvement, students' level of social responsibility increases and critical thinking skills improve. The community service allows the University to link significant academic concerns with major community problems and improve community relationships.

Objectives

1. To provide a clear understanding of community service and service learning while teaching the students the purpose, importance, and value of community service.
2. To assist students in understanding the needs and the dynamics of the community.
3. To provide an opportunity for students to express and record their feelings regarding their community service experiences.
4. To create an opportunity for students to investigate and evaluate the effectiveness of community service programs.

Activities

1. Defining community service
2. Defining service learning
3. Community service placements
4. Community service journal and log
5. Community service paper

Application

Students will complete ten (10) hours of community service at the agency/project of their choice during the semester. An immediate supervisor on site shall be identified to verify the completion of the service.

Evaluation

Students will be graded on the quality of the final paper and the number of completed service hours for the volunteer experience.
Benefits of Community Service

UNIVERSITY

- Increases learning opportunities
- Improves community relations
- Strengthens community partnerships
- Improves student preparation for employment

STUDENT

- Increases awareness of social issues
- Creates social responsibility
- Enhances critical thinking and leadership skills
- Explores careers and educational opportunities

COMMUNITY

- Increases access to University resources
- Strengthens University partnerships
- Participation in the educational process
- Develops future community leaders
Community Service Paper

COMMUNITY SERVICE REFLECTION. After you have completed your ten hours or more of community service, you will write a synopsis describing your volunteer experiences. The paper should be at least two typed written pages (350—400 words or more). You may include literature about the agency/program you volunteer with. The paper may include a combination of any of the following:

- History of the Agency
- A general description of the purpose of the organization/agency.
- What specific tasks did you perform?
- What contribution(s) were you able to make to the organization/agency?
- What did you learn about yourself as a result of this experience?
- What was your impression of the benefits associated with volunteerism before you did this community service?
- Has your impression changed since completing this task?
- To what extent do you feel the agency provides a needed service in the community?
Verification of Community Service Form

Name of Student Volunteer: ______________________________________________________

Class/Section: ________________________________________________________________

Name of Volunteer Agency/Program: ____________________________________________

Contact Person/Supervisor of Volunteer Service: ________________________________

Telephone #: _________________________________________________________________

Total Number of Hours Logged: ________________________________________________

Period of Service Beginning __________________________ Ending: _________________

Verified by: ____________________________

Supervisor

________________________

Date
# Community Service Log

Name of Student Volunteer: ________________________________

Site of Volunteer Service: ________________________________

Date Service Begun: ________________________________

Date Service Ended: ________________________________

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Certified By Site Supervisor: ________________________________