



Service Learning Program PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Introduction to Service Learning Practicum

The Service Learning Practicum (SLP) program is designed as an opportunity for students to be actively engaged in ministry/service while pursuing college studies. Students earn academic credit for SLP by volunteering in local congregations, community non-profit organizations, and agencies. SLP is required of all students during their first two years at Trinity.

Organizations interested in serving as a site for practicum/internships required of degree programs should contact appropriate department chairs directly; See a list of faculty by going to www.tlc.edu and selecting “Faculty” under the “Academics” tab.

Expectations of Students

SLP students volunteer 3-5 hours per week and generally assume *one piece* of a larger ministry/service program. For instance, a student might lead activities in an afterschool program for children, assist in serving meals at a shelter, facilitate a small group for a church youth group, or serve a social service agency with administrative tasks. SLP students work with a Site Mentor who is the coordinator of the larger program; students do not assume the lead role of an entire service/ministry program.

Students explore options (in conversation with an advisor) and are matched with sites in September. Students generally serve in the same organization for the entire academic year (late September to mid-December and February through May). Students meet regularly with an on-campus faculty mentor and peers for reflection and integration of experience.

Expectations of Site Mentors

The Site Mentor provides orientation, support, and counsel to students during their term of service. The Site Mentor evaluates student progress over the course of the year, including end of year evaluations, and report any changes or improvements for the following year to the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning.

To Be Considered as a Service Learning Partner

If you are interested in serving as a potential Service Learning site, please complete the Placement Site Application and submit to the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning. The form can be found on the CCESL website by going to www.tlc.edu and selecting “Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning” under the “Academics” tab.

Please note that Trinity does its best to match site and student based on academic interests, learning objectives, development of growth areas, gifts and talents, availability, etc. We cannot guarantee that an approved site receives a student.

For More Information

For additional information about the Service Learning Practicum program, contact the CCESL office at 425.249.4770 or CCESL@tlc.edu.