

Revised Serving Society GELOs:

1. Demonstrate responsiveness in service work with a community organization.
2. Reflect on service as a component of active citizenship, community engagement, and social responsibility **while articulating the connection between academic learning and service.**

Serving Society; Enacting Justice

Students fulfilling this requirement are expected to be engaged with a spirit of humility in acts of mercy and justice through a community organization. They are required to participate in a course with a service project or an internship that includes significant and meaningful involvement in responding to social issues. A course or internship fulfilling this requirement should deliberately raise students' awareness of issues of justice grounded in social class, gender, ethnicity or human disability; the environment; or the impact of technology. This experience should invite students to examine their presuppositions and to develop their skills in their exercise of charity and compassion. The service project, which is to be explicitly integrated into the academic content of the course, should, when possible, be performed for a non-profit organization.

Certification Criteria

Students will be able to

1. Identify theological motivations for service; the needs of the population being served; the effects and affects resulting from those needs; and the causes of those needs, such as involuntary circumstances, individual choices, and structural injustices;
2. Articulate how they have been affected by their experience (for example, changes in beliefs, attitudes or values) and how their experiences might inform their calling to discipleship, citizenship, and future service.

Interpretive Statement

Activities designed to fulfill the Serving Society; Enacting Justice section of the General Education program should substantially conform to the following criteria. These activities can be completed in three ways – either embedded within a course, or within the context of an internship at a qualified internship site, or as a leader in a qualified student run ministry.

1. The service component should be preceded by an orientation which addresses
 - a. The context in which the work will be done.
 - b. The specific goals of the activity(ies).
 - c. The types of reporting that will be expected.
2. The service component should take place in a context where the student will have exposure to one or more of the following:
 - a. Issues of economic disparity and class.
 - b. Issues of gender and ethnicity.
 - c. Issues of environmental stewardship/ remediation.
 - d. Issues of social or political disenfranchisement.
 - e. Issues of community identity, infrastructure, and safety.
 - f. Issues related to aging.
 - g. Issues of disability.
 - h. Issues related to the logistics of or structures for serving society and/or enacting justice.
 - i. Other similar or related issues.

3. The service component may take the form of direct contact and service or may take place in a setting which addresses systemic and structural concerns.
4. For service embedded within a course or within the context of an internship. Typically, at least 12 hours of service should be performed. For the leaders of a student run ministry at least 24 hours of direct contact service should be performed.
5. The service component should be embedded in or connected to an academic context (lecture, class discussion, seminar, readings, discussions with a mentor) which will enable the student to process the experience beyond a casual level.
6. There should be a clear system of accountability and reporting for both performance and processing.
7. Credit is granted for participation in the seminar, not for the service work.

Committee Praxis

Additional Information for Student-run or externally-run ministries

Students who wish to fulfill the Serving Society; Enacting Justice General Education requirement using student or externally-run ministry should enroll in the 1-unit APP 192 Service Experience Seminar. The purpose of APP 192 is to provide a means to connect academic learning and reflection with service experiences that typically lack the level of on-site supervision expected for an internship experience.

Expectations:

- § The ministry must have a sufficient track record to demonstrate stability, good organization, effective service, and significant contact with the population being served.
- § A member of the teaching faculty or a member of the staff with faculty status must lead a seminar that (a) prepares students for participation in the ministry and (b) reflects on the experience.
- § The seminar should include preparatory readings which orient students to the cultural and/or social context.
- § The Internship Office will not oversee such a course. ~~The office has a different mission; conducting ministry oversight will obscure the mission and strain already stretched resources.~~
- § ~~Credit is granted for participation in the seminar, not for the ministry work.~~
- § Since the seminar is intended for reflection on the field experience, successful completion of the course is contingent on appropriate engagement during the field experience. The syllabus must have some mechanism (such as a daily reflective journal) in place to monitor participation.
- § Since student-run and externally-run ministries typically do not have mechanisms in place for internship-level on-site supervision and the experience is often compressed, the amount of direct contact should be approximately double (24 hours) that required for a faculty-coordinated project or a supervised internship fulfilling the *Serving Society; Enacting Justice* GE component.

Administrative Structure:

1. The course is graded P/NC and a grade of pass is contingent on adequate engagement in both the seminar and the field experience components of the course.
2. In order to ensure the appropriateness of the participants for the field experience, instructor approval is required for registration.
3. Administrative procedures such as registration and grade submittal will conform to the expectations of standard courses.

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4. Since APP 192 is intended to fulfill the *Serving Society; Enacting Justice* GE requirement, the GE Committee will review proposals (syllabi) to verify the appropriateness of the project, adequacy of the preparation and reflection, and adherence to these principles.