



Applied Studies 191SS Serving Society, Enacting Justice Zero-credit Service

Service Coordinator: Kelley Funk
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Office: Upstairs KSC
Office Hours: By appointment; call or e-mail to schedule

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This zero-credit option fulfills the "Serving Society; Enacting Justice" requirement within the "Competent & Compassionate Action" of the General Education Curriculum. It provides undergraduates with an opportunity to serve communities by volunteering time locally, or serving in an approved Spring Break Ministry and Outreach experience. Ideally it provides an opportunity for the practical application of academic theories as well as the development of civic, social, and vocational skills. Within an urban community context, the student will examine an issue of justice such as economic disparity, gender, ethnicity, environmental stewardship, political disenfranchisement, safety, aging, disability, or another concern. The service rendered may be direct or it may address systemic or structural concerns. The site and service must be approved by Kelley Funk, the staff coordinator.

REQUIREMENTS – Students are responsible for managing and meeting all of the following requirements:

1. Attend the orientation session on Thursday, August 29, 12:00[Noon] – 1PM in Carroll Hall.
2. During orientation, sign up for a mid-term group meeting that works with your schedule.
3. Complete the *Preliminary Response* sheet before you begin logging service hours.
4. Finish the registration process so you may begin to log service hours: **Complete the Applied Learning Agreement Form "ALAF" online as soon as you have secured your volunteer site (within the first two weeks of the semester)**. The ALAF link can be found in Canvas or by searching ALAF in the student portal.
5. The ALAF must be completed by Thursday, September 5.
6. Once your service site has been officially approved via the ALAF, log a minimum of 12 hours over the course of the semester. Six hours of service must be completed by midterm Wednesday October 16, 2024.
7. Read at least **two of the** articles/chapters¹ on service that are available in Canvas. These articles include the following: (1) "Bearing Witness: Seeing as a Form of Service," by Deborah Dunn, PhD in *Liberal Education*, Spring 2014, Vol. 100, No. 2. (2) Wells, S., & Owen, M. A. (2011). *Living without enemies: Being present in the midst of violence*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books. Chapter 1: Nazareth. (3) Reverend Dr. Sam Wells, "Rethinking Service" (presentation, LFP National Conference, Indianapolis, IN, October 20, 2012).

¹ An alternate reading may be substituted by the student with the permission of the instructor

8. Write a 3-page reflection paper on *Serving Society*, integrating your thoughts from the reading assignments as they apply to your service experience.² Consider what it would look like to enact justice through the lens of the gospel in the setting you have chosen to serve. Make at least 2 references to each reading. Paper is due in Canvas the day before your scheduled mid-term appointment.
9. Meet with the faculty coordinator at your midterm small group meeting to discuss your paper.
10. Complete your service hours by Friday, December 6 & email the instructor at kfunk@westmont.edu to notify her that you have completed your hours.
11. Site supervisor submits electronic evaluation and verification of service hours no later than Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

GRADING

This option will be graded pass/fail, based upon the completion of the above requirements. No incomplete grades will be issued. Withdrawing from the class after the registrar's established deadline will result in a "WX" grade on the transcript.

Plagiarism -To plagiarize is to present someone else's work—his or her words, line of thought, or organizational structure—as your own. This occurs when sources are not cited properly, or when permission is not obtained from the original author to use his or her work. Another person's "work" can take many forms: printed or electronic copies of computer programs, musical compositions, drawings, paintings, oral presentations, papers, essays, articles or chapters, statistical data, tables or figures, etc. In short, if any information that can be considered the intellectual property of another is used without acknowledging the original source properly, this is plagiarism.

Please familiarize yourself with the entire Westmont College Plagiarism Policy. This document defines different levels of plagiarism and the penalties for each. It also contains very helpful information on strategies for avoiding plagiarism. It cannot be overemphasized that plagiarism is an insidious and disruptive form of academic dishonesty. It violates relationships with known classmates and professors, and it violates the legal rights of people you may never meet.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TOOLS

Westmont's [academic integrity policy](#) prohibits us from "present[ing] another's work as our own." Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT attempt to do the work of writing and other creation for their users. Therefore, students should NOT substitute AI-generated content or ideas for original academic work. Westmont faculty members design assignments for students' incremental and active learning through methods such as reading, summarizing, discussion, and an authentic generative process in which a student does the work of critical thinking and message construction.

It is possible for original academic work (e.g., a student-authored essay) that has been grammar-checked or proofread by AI editing tools (including ChatGPT and Grammarly) to be flagged by AI detection tools on Turnitin.com, etc. Our [academic integrity policy](#) does not prohibit students from using AI editing tools unless the extent of usage meets the threshold for plagiarism. However, a student should seek permission from an instructor PRIOR to an assignment submission if considering using an AI tool for editing or another assignment-related task. Failing to do so may result in that student's work being flagged for disciplinary action.

² Reflection papers should be 3 pages, 12-font, double-spaced. Filename should include surname, course name, and short title (Wilson-APP191SS-Serving Society). Filename should be in the top left header. Submit reflection in Canvas.

*Course requirements may be satisfied as early as mid-semester if the site supervisor, the student, and the service coordinator are in agreement.