

East Carolina University Standing Academic Committee
SERVICE LEARNING COMMITTEE

Information about Service-Learning Course Designation

Faculty members interested in obtaining a service-learning course designation are invited to submit to the Service Learning Committee a service learning course designation application form, course questionnaire, and syllabus (see links below). Following approval by the Academic Committee, Faculty Senate, and Chancellor, courses approved for the “SL” designation will be listed as such in both the University undergraduate and graduate catalogs.

- Service-Learning (SL) course designation [application form](#) (WORD format)
- Service-Learning (SL) course [questionnaire](#) (WORD format)
- Course syllabus should include a brief description of the course, learning objectives, and how learning will be assessed

Prior to the course submission deadline noted below, please submit electronic pdf documents to members of the Service Learning Committee via svc@ecu.edu. Please direct any questions to Professor Kylie Dotson-Blake, Chair of the Service Learning Committee at 328-5277.

Deadlines for course submissions:

October 15th of each year for designation in upcoming Spring semester

March 15th of each year for designation in upcoming Fall semester

Why get a SL Designation?

- Many students consider service learning a transformative way to learn and grow while others may want the credits to satisfy requirements proposed for a leadership or service certificate or portfolio, or the honors program. Students find that this documentation also helps when they seek employment and/or apply to graduate school. The SL designation will be recorded on student transcripts.
- Faculty members who are familiar with service learning serve as a peer review committee for service learning course submissions. The committee reviews proposals and syllabi to ensure they meet the five criteria listed below, and also offers suggestions and constructive input as needed to make the service-learning experience a positive one for all involved.
- The SL designation helps ECU collect information, report, and recognize the important contributions that our faculty and students make to the community.

What support is there for faculty who incorporate service-learning into their courses?

- The Volunteer and Service Learning Center (VSLC) is available to assist faculty with identifying community partners and projects, and then maintaining positive partner relationships. The Center works with many non-profit agencies and maintains a database of current community needs and requests.

- VSLC staff provide orientation sessions for your students at the beginning of each semester to introduce your students to service learning and to answer their questions about community partners, logistics, and safety.
- Free liability insurance is available for your students. This insurance provides liability insurance if students damage people or property while performing service at the agency. The policy also provides limited coverage for motor-vehicle accidents and personal injury. Students must complete a registration form to be eligible for insurance coverage.
- The Volunteer and Service Learning Center also offers workshops and a conference on service learning. The Center arranges for faculty with experience and expertise to offer workshops and to serve as mentors, and also hosts nationally recognized experts in the field of service learning.
- Assessment opportunities for the service learning component of your course by the Volunteer and Service Learning Center. The Center provides you a summary of the data collected from your students. This provides valuable information about what worked and what did not and how you can introduce changes you think will be beneficial. These assessments also help the Center better serve ECU service learning courses.

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