

# CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE-LEARNING



ART 401-1 (ISL course, Teaching of Art) student Jaime Overschmidt works with prisoners at the Greene County Justice Center on clay art figures



CRM 397 student Kristen Zegar works as an autopsy assistant at the Greene County Medical Examiner's Office

We would be happy to talk with you about Service-Learning classes or community partners. Please come by the office Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. We are located in Plaster Student Union 209 (the main floor, between Commerce Bank and Copy This).

## “OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND INTO THE COMMUNITY”

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# Student Testimonials

*"I thought that this service-learning experience was awesome. It really helped me remember why I wanted to be a teacher. It was great to work with the students at Monett High School. I loved it!"*

Annie Fredrickson, SPN 525  
Hispanic Educational Access Initiative

*"I had an amazing time volunteering for the hospital. It gave me great insight into what I can look forward to in the future. Before, I was having a difficult time trying to find experience in the hospital and finding a job. But after volunteering, they were able to offer me a job as an Emergency Tech."*

Lindsay Szymkowicz, CHM 350  
Cox North Emergency Room

*"I think service-learning is a wonderful opportunity. I enjoyed it so much the first time that I decided to enroll for another semester. Being able to volunteer within a facility that I could someday work in was very helpful in deciding whether or not my major was right for me. It really gave me an inside look that my classes can only describe."*

Sarah Schwartze, SWK 205  
Boys & Girls Town

*"I loved my experience in El Salvador. I learned a ton of information in a short amount of time while having a blast and getting to help others. I would recommend this to others because it's a once in a lifetime experience that I will never forget."*

Heather Plummer, BMS 497  
ISL Class—Convoy of Hope

## What is Service-Learning?

It's a type of experiential education that combines and pursues both academic achievement and community service in a seamless weave, requiring the use of effective reflection exercises. The goal of service-learning, through linking academics to the community, is to develop the skills, sensitivities and commitments necessary for effective citizenship in a democracy.

## Types of Service-Learning on campus: Component and Integrated

### Component

Through the **Component Service-Learning (SL)** option, students may register for a service-learning component class and earn one hour of additional credit. Students participate in 40 hours of service outside of class time at a Community Partner (nonprofit or government agency) site...similar to a "mini internship." The Community Partner becomes an extension of the classroom where a real world laboratory is provided for the student to obtain experiences that can incorporate projects and papers for career portfolios.

### Integrated

Service-learning can be an integral part of your classroom through an **Integrated Service-Learning (ISL)** course. All students in an Integrated Service-Learning class participate in an experiential learning project at a Community Partner site as one of their assignments for the course. Students are required to serve a minimum of 15 hours at locations that meet the goals and objectives of the course.

A list of current and past service-learning courses is available on our web site at <http://www.missouristate.edu/casl/>.



**Above:** SPN 202 (Intermediate Spanish II) student Whitney Stratton works with children at Head Start. **Front cover:** BIO 369 (General Ecology) student J. Rhy Norton handles the giant tortoise at Dickerson Park Zoo.

## Benefits of Service-Learning:

- "Real world" experience helps to build your resume
- Improves personal development skills (i.e. problem-solving, time management, decision-making, communication)
- Gives you a chance to test career choices/areas of interest before you graduate from college
- Learning of subject matter increases—not just theory

