

# What is Service-Learning?

Service-Learning is a type of education that lets you put classroom skills into practice while serving your community.

Service-Learning courses place students in Rochester-area schools, organizations, agencies and businesses to meet a specific community need. This need will be closely aligned with the objectives of the course.

## BENEFITS

- Service-learning courses are noted on transcripts in two ways: after the course name and at the end showing service hours completed
- Students who qualify for financial aid and work-study money may receive aid for service time
- Students who complete 200 hours of service with a 2.0 or better average receive a seal of distinction on their diploma indicating they've had a service learning option concentration of service while at MCC



- Make classroom learning more relevant – bring it to life
- Learn values, citizenship and leadership skills
- Develop connections with people of diverse cultures and lifestyles
- Strengthen problem-solving skills
- Explore majors and career interests
- Strengthen your resume
- Make a difference in your community

***"You get to do hands-on practice.  
There is no better way to learn."***

## WHAT STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY

***What is the single most important thing Service-Learning taught you?***

- It helped me to see the need for every person to be involved in the community
- It provided me with knowledge about my community and that there are ways to help
- I learned that all students can make a big difference in someone's life
- It put my education into effect
- You actually get to see what goes on, not just what it's like on TV
- Service-Learning allowed me to be a leader. It showed me how strong I am
- It showed me how to handle situations that were difficult
- It helped me to find my strengths and weaknesses
- It helped me to learn more about hunger
- It increased my self-confidence
- I learned a lot about people

# Bring Your Classroom Learning to Life

To find out more about Service-Learning courses, contact Susan Bender, Service-Learning Coordinator at 585.262.1710 or e-mail [sbender@monroecc.edu](mailto:sbender@monroecc.edu).

# MCC

Monroe Community College  
Office of Service-Learning  
Damon City Campus  
228 East Main Street  
Rochester, New York 14604  
Phone: 585.262.1713  
Fax: 585.262.1615

*Monroe Community College is a unit of the State University of New York. It is the policy of the University and of this College not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, marital status or sexual orientation in admissions, employment and treatment of students and employees in any educational program or activity.*

# Service-Learning Opportunities

Where Classroom Learning Comes to Life



***"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember,  
involve me and I learn."  
- Benjamin Franklin***

**MCC**  
MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

There's More to You. There's More To MCC.

# Learn While You Serve

## WHY DOES MCC OFFER SERVICE-LEARNING?

It's right in our name: Monroe Community College. We're an active, engaged part of the community.

By partnering with our community, students help develop solutions to its most pressing problems. In turn, the community helps students by providing innovative opportunities for students to learn. That enriches the quality of our education...and everybody wins.

## WHAT'S A SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT?

*As a part of a traditional class you'll participate in a project that meets a community need.*



## WHAT COURSES OFFER SERVICE-LEARNING?

This is sample of some of the classes with a service-learning component:

### **EDU 100 Introduction to the Teaching Profession**

#### **EDU 200 Foundations of Education**

Students will develop anti-bullying lesson plans for area schools. Others will develop literacy kits for Rochester childcare centers.

### **PPE 214 Early Childhood Physical Education**

#### **Brighton Recreation Center**

Students will develop and carry out recreational lesson plans for the after school program. These lesson plans will be compiled and given to the recreation center to use in the future.

### **SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology**

#### **Sector 8 Community Issues**

Students will gather information in nine categories on the Sector 8 neighborhood. One of the SOC 101 classes will examine existing challenges in Sector 8 (in education, economics, environment, health care, poverty, housing, politics, hunger and urbanization) and another class will examine the assets.

### **Service-Learning Learning Community**

#### **ECO 103 Personal Money Management**

#### **SOC 101 Introductory Sociology**

In this new Service-Learning Learning Community, students will provide services and education to individuals in the community related to credit abuse, debt and bankruptcy. A Learning Community is a group of students who take two courses together. The two courses are coordinated by two faculty working closely together. Most writing assignments are coordinated and are used in both courses.

### **Service-Learning Seminar SVL 101**

(3 credit hours) Earn credit by performing meaningful services at not-for-profit organizations. Students serve for at least nine hours a week throughout the semester. Service-learners also attend a series of eight seminars that cover topics from citizenship development to what makes a community work. 135 Service-Learning hours.

- This course will be offered at Brighton and Damon City Campuses
- Meets requirements for a Social Science elective

### **CRJ 222 Introduction to Criminal Justice**

MCC students team up with the Brighton police department to address several needs identified by local residents. Some of the activities include patrolling neighborhoods and identifying drivers exceeding the speed limit using radar gun training received during the semester.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q:** How much extra time does a service-Learning course take?

**A:** The amount of time and work is the same as a traditional class.

**Q:** Will I be able to fit it into my schedule?

**A:** Most programs are flexible and can accommodate a variety of schedules.

**Q:** What is the Reflection component of the course?

**A:** Reflection is the opportunity for a service-learner to connect the learning objectives of the course to the service. This includes writing in a journal, creating a portfolio and small and large group discussions.

**Q:** Are Service-Learning courses graded differently?

**A:** No. As with all courses, you'll be graded on how well you demonstrate meeting course objectives.

## SERVICE-LEARNING ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Service-Learning Assistants operate as the link between the classroom, the Office of Service-Learning and the community partner by assisting in the coordination efforts associated with the service project. This includes collecting any necessary paperwork from students, making regular contact with the community partner(s) and distributing information as needed. A list of responsibilities is provided to each Service-Learning Assistant that is specific to the course and community partner they are assigned to.

## BENEFITS

- Gain leadership skills
  - Obtain experience to put on a resume or transfer college application
  - Develop resources for letters of recommendation
  - Receive a service activity award
  - Network with faculty and community agencies
- 
- Compensation: For the commitment of the time students will receive a stipend of \$75 for their assistance.
  - Service Award: Each Service-Learning Assistant will be presented with a Service Activity award at the end of the academic year.