

# How community partners work with WVU service-learning courses

## **BCOR 199 – Honors Intro to Business (Fall Course)**

Groups of 4-5 students who will complete 8 service hours. Projects should allow the students to explore some basic business practices such as accounting, finance, management, marketing or economics. These are first year students. If you are looking for ideas, some previously successful projects included:

- Literacy Volunteers had a group of students plan and conduct a resume writing and job application workshop for adults in the community with low literacy levels.
- The Mountaineer Area Robotics had a group of students research potential funding sources and organize a binder for potential funding opportunities
- Students working with Westwood Middle School organized a game to help middle school students learn about the stock market.

## **COMM 112 – Small Group Communication (Fall and Spring)**

Groups of 4-5 students who work together (all must be present during all project hours) to complete 10 hours of service. This course has increased its service requirement to allow for more meaningful service. They will also be creating a video focusing on telling the story of the organization they serve with. This could be a great way to have a sharable video telling your story. The focus on this opportunity for the students is to learn about working well collaboratively. If you have an upcoming fundraiser or event, this can be a great way to get students to help promote and/or staff the event but students need to be involved throughout the semester and not just present for one event. Past successful projects have included:

- The Children's Discovery Museum had students assist in hands on demonstrations during an event.
- Students at Christian Help spent time researching community calendars to help choose a strategic date for an event as well as to advertise upcoming events on all of these community calendars.
- Students at Westwood Middle School planned and coordinated an afterschool activity event for students

## **HNF 353 – Food Service Systems Management (spring)**

This is a mid-level course for students majoring in Human Nutrition and foods. This course is focused in practical skills and students will be working in the community to practice their skills as developing dietitians. Students can do a wide variety of food related work as they look at food systems, meaning helping with food coming into a program, being prepared/packaged and utilized or composted. Students also learn about the purchase of food through state or national budgets and can help with menu planning for facilities with this type of restriction.

Project examples are:

- sourcing local foods for your operation
- composting with food waste
- participant nutrition education and cooking demonstrations
- menu revisions for your agencies + nutrition information cycle menu development
- food insecurity/food banking activities

### **LDR 201 – Principles of Leadership (Fall and Spring)**

Groups of 4-5 students will complete approximately 15 hours. These students are studying to be leaders and this is an opportunity for them to practice their skills, they are generally midlevel students who are likely to show initiative. As these students are learning about leadership, it is a good opportunity to give them some ideas and information about your organization and allow them to plan and implement a project. The instructors of this course are particularly interested in expanding projects with local government and faith based groups however all interested partners can request projects! Past successful projects have included:

- Students at the Madison Center planned, promoted and put on events for the residents
- Students at Christian Help held a toiletry drive, they independently planned and promoted the event and were able to donate a significant amount of supplies.
- Students at the Mountaineer Boys and Girls Club planned and executed a superhero themed dance party for the afterschool kids

### **MANG 480 – Corporate Social Responsibility (Spring)**

This is an upper-level management course that students apply to be accepted into. Students will complete 20-30 hours individually or in pairs. Students will be learning about the critical role of the nonprofit sector in communities as well as how businesses can serve as effective partners. Projects should have a long-term impact for the organization. This class also has \$20,000 to award in grant funding at the end of the semester, they will put out an RFP and will act as a foundation board to award funds. Having a student from this class does not impact whether or not you will receive funding but is a great way to make sure they are aware of your organization! Successful projects have included:

- Students at CASA for Kids developed a volunteer manual/handbook that can be used to help train volunteers.
- Students at In Touch and Concerned worked closely with the ED to update policies and procedures manuals for staff and board

### **MDS 489 – Multi Disciplinary Capstone (Fall and Spring)**

Groups of 4-5 students who will complete 20 hours. This project can accomplish a lot and is especially good for helping to plan and put on a fundraiser or other type of event! These are usually seniors who are getting the opportunity to put into place the skills they've been developing over the past 3-4 years. Previous successful projects included:

- The Mountaineer United Soccer Club had students coordinate with vendors and participants for their spring soccer celebration. The students were responsible for developing a schedule of events as well as advertising and promoting the event.
- Arthurdale Heritage had students conduct interviews with nursing home residents to help create a written history of their stories.

### **PHAR 719 – Pharmacy Practice Experience (Fall and Spring)**

This is a practice course for students who will ultimately be earning Doctor of Pharmacy degrees. The goal of their placement is to in partnership with a community agency, work as a team to develop and implement a project that is

healthcare related, meets one or more goals of Healthy People 2020 and meets a community need. Special emphasis is placed on projects targeting underserved populations. Past successful projects have included:

- Students at Sundale Nursing Home planned and hosted a senior Olympics with residents from several area nursing homes to promote safe activity for seniors.
- Students at Unity Manor put on a health fair for residents that included blood pressure, blood glucose, and cholesterol screenings
- Students at Caritas House put on a program educating area high school students about sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy prevention

### **STCM 315 - Strategic Communications: Strategic Advertising and Public Relations Writing, 3 credit hours (Fall and Spring)**

This course has a very specific focus on strategic writing and public relations. Pairs of students will complete 30 hours. You pick the message you would like to promote as well as your target audience. Through specific assignments, including a press release, a public service announcement, social media strategies and event materials students will help with your communications campaign. They can also meet custom communication needs such as helping with websites, designing promotional materials etc. These students are juniors or seniors and are excited to have the opportunity to put the skills they are learning to work in a real setting! Successful projects have included:

- Operation Welcome Home had students help with the promotion of a fundraiser, specifically targeting current and potential donors.
- Golden Horseshoe had students work to promote their organization and spread the word about their mission and services.

### **SSS/TRIO Service-Learning (Fall only)**

This is a new course designed to introduce freshmen to the community while deepening their understanding of civic engagement. Students will work in groups of 3-5 and will complete 6-9 hours of service in 3 sessions. They will plan service with you for the weeks of Sept 19, Oct 17 and Nov 7. Each group of freshmen will have at least one older students as a mentor who will help to coordinate the service and participate along with the freshmen. As these are primarily first year students, they have limited transportation so priority will be given to projects near campus or a PRT.