

Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Co-op

The ACE Co-op is a new opportunity for graduate fellows to maximize their service requirement, explore the field of Community Engaged Scholarship, and network with engaged faculty members and community leaders while further developing professional skills.

The WVU Center for Service and Learning (CSL) is seeking graduate fellows interested in community engagement to work closely with our center, community partner agencies, and/or students and faculty involved in service-learning or engaged scholarship. This unique opportunity is open to graduate student fellows who would like to deepen their community engagement and learn more about the field of engaged scholarship.

ACE Co-ops will choose to make either a 20-hour or 40-hour commitment to the CSL for one academic semester. All hours will be documented in iServe and will meet the fellowship community service requirement. ACE Co-ops will be part of an interdisciplinary group of future engaged scholars. Professional development workshops and resources will be available. **ACE Co-ops will be expected to participate in at least three workshops or networking events during the semester;** time spent at the networking events will be part of the overall time commitment, not in addition to.

ACE Co-ops will develop a specific work plan in conjunction with CSL leadership. Tasks may involve:

- Co-leading workshops/sessions to prepare students for mutually beneficial service experiences with community partners
- Working closely with service-learning faculty to facilitate service-learning activities in a course
- Working closely with a community partner organization around volunteer management
- Resource development of tools to improve the quality of service-learning
- Resource development of tools to improve volunteer efficiency and impact
- Assessing impact of service-learning and community engagement

This is a new program at WVU and ACE Co-ops are invited to help assess the program itself, provide feedback to shape the future direction of the program and collaborate on potential publications.

Interested grad fellows are encouraged to contact Lindsey Rinehart, Academic Service-Learning Coordinator at lindsey.rinehart@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-8762 to discuss their interest.