

Psychology 294: APPLES Service Learning

Course Description

PSYC 294, APPLES Service Learning, is an **optional** supplement to PSYC 250. For PSYC 294, students participate in a community internship that is relevant to child development, and students commit to 3-5 hours of service per week over the course of 10 weeks. These internships have been pre-arranged by the APPLES office, and students will be able to select a placement that suits their interests, schedule, and available modes of transportation.

The APPLES experience will complement the student's class work on the study of child development. By participating in real-world work with children and families, students will gain first-hand experience related to the theories, research, and applications discussed in class. In addition to complementing the course material, it is hoped that hands-on experience with children will encourage students to consider career options in the field of child development.

PSYC 294 is worth one academic credit hour. Students who wish to fulfill the Experiential Education (EE) connection with PSYC 250 must complete PSYC 294 concurrently.

Please notify Chelsea by **4:00 PM on Monday, January 18** if you wish to do PSYC 294. Sign-up sheets will be available in PSYC 250 lectures. You can also sign up on Sakai.

Requirements

APPLES Service Learning Agreement

Students must complete the APPLES Service Learning Agreement form with their internship supervisor and give a copy of it to Chelsea within 2 weeks of beginning the placement. This agreement is the student's contract with the community partner, and it gives you a chance to have a conversation with your supervisor about what you will be doing as a volunteer and what is expected of you. The Service Learning Agreement form will be posted on Sakai for you to download and print. Please keep your original form and give me a copy. Deadline: 4:00 PM on Friday, February 12.

Service Learning Time Log

Students will track their service learning hours over the course of the semester using the APPLES Service Learning Time Log form. This form will be posted on Sakai for you to download and print. Time Logs must be maintained by the student throughout the semester to accurately record the dates and times of all volunteer hours. In order to receive full credit for this portion of the course, a minimum of 30 hours must be accumulated by the end of the semester. Be sure to plan ahead for Spring Break in order to complete your 30 hours of service. At the end of the semester, the Time Log must be signed by the student and the supervisor. Deadline: 4:00 PM on the last day of classes, Wednesday, April 27.

Reflection Blogs

In addition to 3-5 hours per week of service, students will complete six (6) reflection blog posts over the course of the semester that will be viewable to other students completing PSYC 294. Prompts will be provided to encourage you to consider (a) specific details of the service learning experience, (b) how these experiences are connected to PSYC 250 material, and (c) how your service activities are meaningful and influential within the broader social context. Your blog posts may also include responses to other students'

posts, or it may include questions for other students to answer. These should be between 1 and 2 pages if typed in a Word Document. Upload each post to Sakai by 4:00pm on the following Wednesdays: February 10, February 24, March 2, March 23, April 6, and April 20.

Community Partner Evaluation

The person directly responsible for supervising a student will complete an evaluation of his or her performance using the APPLES form posted on Sakai. Supervisors will be asked to rate your level of responsibility and professionalism, among other factors. About a week before you are done volunteering, make arrangements with your supervisor to complete this form. Deadline: 4:00 PM on the last day of classes, Wednesday, April 27.

Grading

Please strive for excellence and consistency in fulfilling all of your service learning obligations. If you do so, then you will have an amazing experience and you will earn an A in this course. Your grade in PSYC 294 is separate from your PSYC 250 grade, and it will be based on completion of all service learning course requirements.

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| Service Learning Agreement Form | 20 points |
| Service Learning Time Log | 10 points |
| Community Partner Evaluation Form | 10 points |
| Reflection Blogs (6 @ 10 points each) | 60 points |

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| 94-100 = A | 87-90 = B+ | 77-80 = C+ | 67-70 = D+ |
| 91-93 = A- | 84-86 = B | 74-76 = C | 60-66 = D |
| | 81-83 = B- | 71-73 = C- | Less than 60 = F |

Course Policies

Academic Honesty

The Honor Code is in effect at all times, and you are expected to demonstrate academic integrity in fulfilling every aspect of this service learning course. This includes, but is not limited to, faithfully completing your service learning hours, keeping accurate records of your time, and completing reflection papers on your own without unauthorized aid.

Late Paper Policy

There will be a 50% penalty for work submitted late. The Time Log and Community Partner Evaluation forms are due by 4:00 PM on the last day of the semester. These will **not** be accepted late unless you have contacted me ahead of time about a problem with your volunteer placement that prevents you from submitting these forms by the deadline.

Troubleshooting Placement Problems

Please notify us right away if you are having problems with your placement that might affect completing PSYC 294 (e.g., illness that prevents you from meeting the 3 hour per week minimum requirement). We will be glad to work with you to solve the problem and ensure your continued success in the course.