

For those of you who want more than just the classroom experience here are several host institutions that allow you to fulfill course requirements and experience the cultural diversity of studying in Britain, Ireland, or South Africa through service learning. The following is a sample of courses available. Contact Interstudy for a complete listing and more information at 800.663.1999.

BRITAIN

University of Glasgow

Service in the Community

Service-learning is a form of experiential learning that combines academic study with service to the community. In Public Policy, these two components are closely linked together and will offer you the opportunity to gain insight to policy in practice, as all the placements are hosted by welfare agencies in and around Glasgow. The assessment for the module is a 3000 reflective journal, 'progress reports' and 'critical incident' sheets.

Other Courses Offered: Education for Citizenship, Ideological Concepts and Values, Welfare Ideologies

IRELAND

National University of Ireland, Galway

EN 150 Literacy and Learning in the Community

Students are introduced to a range of theories concerning literacy learning and teaching; they will develop academic knowledge and practical skills in this field. This practical community work affords students the opportunity to put some of the theoretical information they have covered in lectures into action; moreover, it will develop interpersonal and teaching skills. Students will submit a portfolio about their work experience at the end of the course. The course is particularly suitable for those students interested in careers in education, psychology or social work; however, all applications will be considered. Students are required to attend one lecture and one tutorial per week as well as one session at a homework club.

During their studies students will learn how to develop strategies and techniques to overcome literacy and reading obstacles, how to use new technologies to engage students more actively in the learning processes and how to reflect critically on their own contribution. Through this course they will learn how to integrate research into the undergraduate learning experience and by engaging in collaborative projects they will gain a stronger understanding of the value of international learning communities.

SOUTH AFRICA

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University

CSL 100 Community Development and Partnerships

The aim of this program is to provide students from abroad with the opportunity to demonstrate and develop their global citizenship through volunteer work. They will develop an understanding of the current issues impacting on community life in South Africa and experience this first hand through service to a South African community, while earning academic credits. This module orientates students to the fundamentals of community development in the field of Health Sciences – in terms of goals, principles, process and application in South Africa.

University of Witwatersrand

ADED2003 Service Learning in Adult Education and Training II

This unit requires students to participate in the running of an adult learning centre. Students, through service learning, will facilitate a group of adult learners with confidence and take some initiative within a structured programme under the ongoing supervision of a more senior practitioner. The unit content includes: Education, training, development and national policy; Principles of adult learning; Designing learning activities; Facilitation skills; Literacy and numeracy approaches and methods. Students from specific disciplines such as English, Mathematics, Sociology can have a disciplinary focus negotiated with their school.

SOUTH AFRICA

Stellenbosch University

IPSU 12308 244 Learning for Sustainable Community Engagement Program

The LSCE programme is located in the rural wine farming community of Lynedoch, at the local primary school. This school is situated in Lynedoch Eco-village and housed within the Sustainability Institute learning centre. The majority of children who attend the school are from backgrounds of abject poverty and their lives are often characterised by impaired bio-psycho-social well-being.

Upon completion of the LSCE course, students will have acquired a basic understanding of the South African context and of their host community/organisation; the ability to address the needs of a community/organization using available resources and to identifying gaps that exist in this regard; the ability to identify their individual service role in relation to existing services and available resources; the basic skills required to engage in co-learning and capacity building and the ability to apply their theoretical knowledge in practice, in the contexts they will work.

University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg

Political Science 310: Policy Issues and Community Service

The aim of this service-learning course is to encourage students to understand and think about the relationship between policy and contemporary socio-economic and political issues such as crime, poverty, service delivery, nation-building, and health especially HIV/AIDS. Theoretical grounding is given practical illustration through internships with approved community partner-organizations and state departments. The internship entails a minimum of forty (40) hours of voluntary community service. Its exact nature will vary, depending on the projects being undertaken by community partner-organizations and state departments.

NB: Although this course is listed for both semesters, we have found that in practice it is only offered once a year depending on the availability of the professor. Students should check with Interstudy regarding availability in any given semester.

Summer Program: Stellenbosch University

Course 2: LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The aim of this programme is to afford students from abroad the opportunity to demonstrate and develop their global citizenship through community engagement. They will develop an understanding of the historical background and current issues impacting on community life and problems in South Africa and experience these first-hand through engaging in a South African community, while earning academic credits.

Summer Program: University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Howard College (Durban)

SOWK3SL Service Learning Course

The objective of the course is to study theoretical constructs of development and examine them in practice through service to a developmental organization. The theoretical framework for development is based on theories of sustainability and of a pro-poor perspective. The service learning will examine the organization from these perspectives. As this is a service learning course, students will be placed in individual organizations according to the students' interests and areas of expertise, and of the organizations' needs. In addition to a secured and supervised placement, students will visit development projects and will be exposed to a range of social, cultural, and historic sites during their stay.