Service-Learning Honors Option

Support students in gaining hands-on experience that benefits the community while they earn honors credit!

Honors Options with a service learning focus enable students to:
- Connect classroom learning with community experience
- Engage in a meaningful project that benefits the community
- Participate in orientation and training
- Reflect on civic responsibility

Questions?
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Honors Option with a Service-Learning Focus: Faculty Guidelines

The Honors Option with a Service-Learning focus offers Honors College students the opportunity to earn honors credit while gaining meaningful, hands-on experience that benefits the community. Listed below are the guidelines outlining quality components of a service-learning experience.

**Definition of Service-Learning:**
Service-learning combines academic coursework with community engagement. Service-learning enables students to connect classroom learning with community experience, to engage in a meaningful project that benefits the community, to participate in orientation and training, to reflect on civic responsibility.

**Guidelines:**

**Learning Objectives:**
- In collaboration with faculty member, student establishes learning goals and objectives for service component prior to beginning project.
- Student and faculty member agree on how service component connects to the specific course as well as how service component is enhanced by that particular course.
- In collaboration with community partner (i.e. an organization or agency with which a student will serve), student identifies what impact their service will have on the community.

**Service-Learning:**
- Student outlines project activities with an identified community partner.
- Service must be of value to the community, as indicated by community partner needs.
- Student provides faculty member with contact information and agreement from community partner.

**Orientation to Service:**
- Student completes MSU’s Tools of Engagement online to become oriented to university community engagement practices and expectations.

**Reflection:**
- In partnership with the faculty member, student connects their service experience to their course through reflection or other meaningful product.

**Registration with CSLCE:**
- Student connects with the Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement (CSLCE) to document Service-Learning Honors Option.

**Deadlines:**
Honors students interested in receiving credit for the Service-Learning Honors Option are required to complete an agreement form with their professor. All project details should be arranged no later than the third week of class.

At the end of the term, the instructor files an online Administrative Action Form for each student who has satisfactorily completed the H-Option. These forms are separate and distinct from the regular end-of-term grade lists and require the approval of the instructor, the chairperson of the department, the Assistant Dean of the College offering the course, and the Dean of the Honors College. Instructors can access these forms through the Instructor Systems menu at the Registrar’s Office website.