



THE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE-LEARNING

WHAT IS SERVICE-LEARNING?

There are lots of different ways to say it, but here at Cal Poly it is defined as a teaching method that “provides students with structured opportunities to learn, develop, and reflect through active participation and thoughtfully-organized community involvement.” To put it even simpler, **service-learning is a way of using Cal Poly’s “learn-by-doing” philosophy to make a difference in the world around us.**

FINDING SERVICE-LEARNING COURSES:

When students register for a class in BroncoDirect, service-learning courses are marked with an “S” -- for example, if a student sees LS 421 and LS 421 S, all sections listed under LS 421 S are service-learning courses. **Remember both LS 421 and LS 421 S count for the exact same requirement, but use different teaching methods.** The S course also provides an indication on students’ transcripts that they served their community through service-learning.

Hint: Students searching for courses in BroncoDirect must **select “contains” in the Course Number pull-down menu** rather than the default “is exactly.”

QUICK SERVICE-LEARNING FACTS FOR ACADEMIC ADVISORS

Credit for Service-Learning Courses: Service-learning courses meet the exact same course curriculum requirements as courses that do not have a service-learning course component. For example, both LS 421 and LS 421S meet the same requirement but use different teaching methods.

Service-Learning Course Stats: In 2006-2007, there were 64 “S” designated courses taught by faculty in a variety of campus departments in which over 1200 students enrolled in these courses.

S Designation: “S” paperwork (available on our website) submitted by faculty to receive the “S” designation for a specific course. This “S” designation appears in Bronco Direct and the schedule of classes. Students also receive the “S” on their transcripts. The “S” designation does not appear in the course catalog.

How Students Benefit from “S” Courses”: Research shows us that service-learning courses enhance academic learning, increase retention of students, provide career development, increase interpersonal and critical thinking skills and promote awareness of community issues.

Listing of Service-Learning Courses: Service-learning courses are posted on BroncoDirect and on the Center for Community Service-Learning website at <http://academic.csupomona.edu/ccsl>.

Cost of “S” Courses: Service-learning courses do not cost more than regular courses. Students pay the same fees for an “S” course as they would for a non-S course.

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