Service-Learning Course Provisional Parameters

The following parameters serve as guidelines for the development of Service-Learning courses. (The temporary Service-Learning committee will be responsible to approve and monitor Service-Learning courses and activities.)

1. The general criteria listed below guide the development and practice of Service-Learning courses:
   a. Integrates service into academic courses
   b. Requires educator orientation and training in the pedagogies and best practices of Service-Learning.
   c. Incorporates research and theory from Service-Learning in course design and delivery.
   d. Provides structured reflection, evaluations and feedback for students.
   e. Meets the needs of an approved community partner.

2. Neumann University Service-Learning courses will include the following components. Faculty are responsible to design courses to accomplish these objectives.
   a. Content Component. Service readings and activities relate service to the course objectives.
      i. Introduces students to research problems and/or community partners that address a significant need in our community, region, country, or the world.
      ii. Prepares students for service by studying theories related to the service and its relevance to the course content.
      iii. Prepares students for service by orienting them to the community partner and the context in which students work.
   b. Reflection Component. Incorporates structured reflection activities that relate course objectives and service experience to the mission of the University.
      i. Includes student, faculty and community partners as appropriate.
      ii. Requires written and oral reflection activities.
      iii. Critically analyzes the theories, structures and assumptions of the course, within the framework of the service experience.
      iv. Helps students to link their values and academic learning to the mission of the University and their world view.

3. The faculty member involved in teaching Service-Learning should:
   a. Know the community partner’s needs.
   b. Communicate with the agency, or the Neumann contact person, to ensure appropriate placement and accountable service by their students.