

## SERVICE-LEARNING COURSE CRITERIA

The following criteria are provided to assist faculty in deciding if their course will meet the standard for designation as service-learning with a not for profit organization.

### INTEGRATION

- The service project is relevant to the course content
- Service-learning is embedded in the course syllabus
- Specific service-learning objectives are defined and listed in the syllabus
- Clear linkage identified between service project and both academic and civic learning objectives and stated in the syllabus

### BENEFIT

- Service provided will meet an identified community need and be of clear benefit to the community
- Service will enhance student academic and civic learning
- Projected community outcomes are mutually agreed upon by community partner and faculty

### SUBSTANTIVE COMMITMENT

- A significant portion of the course is dedicated to the service-learning project through class discussion, preparation, research, and/or direct service
- Includes a plan to prepare students for the roles they will occupy, including preparation to respectfully engage with a community that may not be their own and to work with people who may differ from them significantly in terms of race, class, or other elements of social identity
- Clear expectations are set for students on providing a quality service to the community partner and meeting commitments
- Complies with all clearance and liability/risk requirements of both Misericordia and the community partner

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

- Community partnerships are arranged by the faculty member and Office of Service-Learning with an approved partner organization
- Partnerships are reciprocal, and should involve the community partner in the conceptualization and implementation of the service project

- Where appropriate, community partners will play a role in preparing the students for service with their organization

## **REFLECTION AND ASSESSMENT**

- Includes a plan for structured reflection of the students' experience in the community
- Evaluation of student's service is based on evidence of learning and or applying course material through service, not on completion of service alone
- Includes a plan for assessing the value of the students' service to the community partner