SPRING 2016 SERVICE LEARNING COURSES

What are UCLA students saying about service learning? "The most gratifying part of this course is relating what I learn in the classroom to what I experience at [my service learning] site. It is truly a rewarding experience to see the parallels and contribute knowledge in both areas."

SPRING SPOTLIGHTS

English Composition 3SL – Lec 1 (Prescott) – Education, Access, and Equity – Satisfies Writing 1! Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15

Education is a requirement for social mobility, financial security, and a successful life. Yet there are many institutional and cultural barriers that impede students from receiving equal educational opportunities. We'll examine educational access, diversity, and equity in popular culture representations (Harry Potter) and in the real world, at both the national level and local levels. We will discuss the structures, processes, and practices that reinforce inequities in education as well as ways to increase equity, diversity, and college access. In this service learning seminar, not only will you learn and practice college level writing skills, but you will also get to apply these skills in real-world contexts. You may be helping young adults with their writing or tutoring LGBTQ youth preparing for the GED exam.

English Composition 3SL – Lec 2 (McIver) – Los Angeles & the California Dream – Satisfies Writing 1! Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15

California is a geographical place, of course, but it's also a screen onto which we project hopes, fantasies, and dreams for the future. How have ideas about and images of California changed over the past 200 years? How have working people contributed to and been excluded from those ideas and images? How do class, race, and gender influence the way we imagine California? This course is dedicated not to the history of the Golden State per se, but to the history of ideas that have shaped our understanding of California. In addition to reading and writing about fascinating literature and captivating visual art, you'll discover what forms the California dream takes today as you work with a local non-profit organization to serve Los Angeles communities.

English 4WS – Lec 1 (Beck) – Life Writing & Historical Narrative – Satisfies Writing 2! Tuesday/Thursday 2:00-3:50

This service-learning seminar examines methods of telling life stories--both our own stories as well as the stories of others. We will investigate the relationship between history and life writing through local, regional, national, and international intersections. Can there be life without history? How do narrative strategies—such as genre and form— attempt to bridge the distance between an individual life and the forces that build worlds? Explore these questions by exploring great works of literature and audiovisual texts while collaborating with community organizations to help children and adults share untold stories of their lives in Los Angeles and their world.

English 4WS – Lec 2 (Shin) – Right to the City – Satisfies Writing 2! Monday/Wednesday 12:00-1:50

This course explores social justice and the city, particularly the ways in which factors such as race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability shape civic access. We will navigate literary environments across the map from ethnic enclaves in Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York to the favelas of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. By doing so, we can think critically about the ways in which literary representations and social systems foster or hinder access to the city and its resources. At the same time, students will have a chance to explore the city of Los Angeles and collaborate with local nonprofits that work to promote social justice in our city.

Civic Engagement 50SL – Lec 1 (O'Byrne) – Engaging Los Angeles – Satisfies Diversity AND Society & Culture GE! Monday 2:00-3:50 + Discussion

This service learning course explores the shared history among diverse communities of Los Angeles. Students will roll up their sleeves and engage in meaningful work with local nonprofits and government agencies while reflecting on assets, injustices, and inequities that have shaped experiences of native or immigrant communities.