CUNY Service Corps

Learn to Serve. Serve to Learn.

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Learning Outside of the Classroom:

The Service Corps is a hybrid program that provides 700 students at the University with both a service opportunity and a pre-professional experience at 96 community partner sites.

Today we will discuss how the Service Corps model enhances students' co-curricular learning through:

- *A robust ongoing support program*
- *Making connections with faculty and awarding credit*

OUR STORY…

- November 2012:
  - ✓ In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, Chancellor Emeritus Matthew Goldstein announces plan to form the CUNY Service Corps
- Spring 2013:
  - ✓ Aggressive planning and recruitment to realize this major University initiative
  - ✓ Seven participating colleges are chosen
- Summer 2013:
  - ✓ Nearly 2000 applications are received from students, 165 from partners
  - ✓ Offer extended to over 800 students and 96 community partners
- Fall 2013
  - ✓ 719 students complete pre-service training and are placed with 96 community partners
- Spring 2014
  - Culminating our inaugural year
  - Recruiting for next year (1900 students and 175 partners applied)
  - Building on our successes!

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8 PARTICIPATING COLLEGES

BMCC

QUEENS COLLEGE

LEHMAN COLLEGE

MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CITY TECH

College of Staten Island
The City University of New York

KINGSBOROUGH

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OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS INCLUDE...

NYP

NYS Department of Labor
PROTECT | ASSIST | CONNECT

NY Brooklyn NavyYard Industrial Park

American Museum of Natural History

CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

CENTER FOR COURT INNOVATION

Visiting Nurse Service of New York
VNSNY

THE POINT
WHERE COMMUNITY AND CREATIVITY CONNECT.

THE DOOR

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

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CSI CUNY

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

QUEENS COLLEGE

KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LEHMAN COLLEGE

ME 1970 MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE

BMCC

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

EXAMPLES OF SERVICE PLACEMENT PROJECTS

- Lead schoolchildren through museum exhibits
- Help develop websites for community organizations
- Tutor immigrants in English

- Help immigrants apply for citizenship
- Work in participatory budgeting with local city council members
- Help senior citizens become more tech-savvy

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WHAT DO STUDENTS GAIN?

"I never knew the extent of my skills, the impact that I could create or the importance of critical thinking. I now understand the significance of self-confidence and how to use my knowledge to serve the greater good."

-Rohannie
Literacy Partners

"I am a better person and a better professional as a result of my time in the Service Corps. My supervisor opened my eyes to my potential as a professional."

-Alyssa
East Harlem Tutorial Program

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CRITICALLY IMPORTANT PROGRAM ELEMENT – ONGOING SUPPORT PROGRAM

The ongoing support program creates experiential learning opportunities for students to meaningfully reflect on their service placements through workshops and meetings facilitated by campus managers.

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BMCC Overview

With the collaboration of other support services at BMCC, the CUNY Service Corps students at BMCC were required to attend a series of workshops that included the following:

- Understanding Your Personality Using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI)
- Professional Etiquette in the Workplace
- Stress Management
- Conflict Resolution in the Workplace
- Resume Writing

To keep the theme of giving back and serving the community, students also were asked to volunteer for at least one on or off campus event:

- Career Fair
- De-Stress Fest
- Partnership with NY Cares
- Alternative Spring Break Trip to Oklahoma City in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity

BMCC Ongoing Support

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John Jay Overview

Biweekly Trainings

Symplicity Platform

One-on-one Advising

John Jay Ongoing Support

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Training Highlights

Victim/Victor Talk

- Define Victim Talk vs. Victor Talk
- Practice Active Listening
- Small Group Activity
  - Choose a statement and convert to victim talk

Ending Your Placement on a Professional High Note

- Reflective Writing
- Reflective Icebreaker – Large Group Activity
- Small Group Activity
- Learning Action Plan Review

John Jay Ongoing Support

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Training Highlights

Reflective Exercises

- Reflective Writing
- Row Race
- Who Am I?
- Service Haiku

John Jay Ongoing Support

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Additional Components

Symplicity Platform
- Online Database
- Community Building
- Campus Specific

One-on-one Advising
- Tailored Improvement Plans
- Regular Check-Ins

John Jay Ongoing Support

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LOOKING AHEAD – INCREASING FACULTY ENGAGEMENT & AWARDING CREDIT

Next year, faculty will lead some service-oriented projects, and students will more explicitly connect their service work to their academic learning.

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BMCC Overview

- Cooperative Education courses - Students can gain practical work experience by working in internships in areas such as business, government or human service organizations during the semester.

- Each student intern is assigned to an internship professor who is knowledgeable about the student's field. The professor serves as the student's instructor and advisor during the field experience.

- Students receive two (2) academic credits for their participation in the internship course.

Cooperative Education interns are expected to:

- Work 15 hours a week for the length of the academic semester.
- Complete a term project assigned by the professor.
- Be evaluated by the worksite supervisor.

BMCC Connections to Faculty & Credit

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John Jay Overview

- Faculty engaged in program
  - Recruitment and selection
    - Advertise program to students
    - Serve as application readers
    - Group interview facilitators and observers
- Faculty-led projects
  - Faculty supervise service placements
  - Possibility to receive credit as independent study

John Jay Connections to Faculty & Credit

Awarding Credit

Individual Route (3-6 credits)

- Apply through Careers office
- Complete internship course through department

Leadership Course (3 credits)

- Taught through Office of Community Outreach
  - Service-learning model
  - Meets 6 times throughout semester
  - Use Corps site as practical experience
  - Course full of Service Corps members

Current Cohort Receiving Credit: **15%**

Projected for 2014-2015 Cohort: **33%**

John Jay Connections to Faculty & Credit

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