

CSAC-A: Community Service Activity Course

FINAL PAPER

(3 – 4 pages)

The goal of the assignment is to provide you with a forum in which to reflect (in a formal way) upon your service-related activities. Using your journal as a building block, you are expected to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize the CSAC experience. In writing your paper, you will:

◆ **Provide a suitable introduction:**

- ▶ Familiarize your reader with a brief description of the school/classroom or organization where you served. What were your first impressions of the site? Describe the setting, people, actions, and positive or negative feelings you had.

◆ **Reflect upon your service activity in order to achieve a better understanding of what you accomplished:**

- ▶ What skills did you bring to the agency? Identify things that concerned you about who you were serving.

◆ **Think of changes made in your life due to the service performed:**

- ▶ What did you discover about yourself regarding the service you performed? Illustrate how you made a difference. Point out significant experiences. Has your vision of serving changed as a result of the work you did?

Explain what impact this position has had on you and how you have or have not benefited from it. In what areas can you apply lessons you have learned to other areas of your life (i.e.: time management, work ethic, patience, etc.)

◆ **Take an objective point of view:**

- ▶ What suggestions or modifications would you make to the organization with which you worked? What would you do differently, or what would you keep the same?

Would you recommend other students serve at this agency? In your judgment, is the school/classroom/organization meeting its mission? Did you contribute to the agency's objectives?

◆ **Conclude by critically reflecting on:**

- ▶ Why this placement is necessary in terms of service outreach. Who benefited most from this activity?

Although your essay is not a research paper, you are expected to submit a document that meets academic standards. Your essay needs to be typed and double-spaced. You may include references, in which case you need to add a reference list. Of course, you should proofread your work carefully for correct grammar and punctuation. We encourage you to submit a document of which you are proud—one that is a fitting coda to a worthwhile activity.