UniSIM College
International Service–Learning Programme

Cynthia Chang, Chloe Lee
Office of Student Development
Structure & Process

Year 1 & 2
Compulsory module, local & international projects

Year 3
Work attachment & mentorship

Year 4
Advocacy & Volunteerism

S–L Pre–Course Survey
Project proposal
Implementation & reflections
Project reports & presentations

Review & Evaluation

Longitudinal study – milestone surveys
**Mode**

**Mandatory**
- Pre-service Foundations of Service-Learning Workshop (4 hours)
- Local Service-Learning initiative (at least 2 years)
- Selected Service-Learning Seminars

**Optional**
- International Service-Learning project (at least 2 weeks)
- Local Service-Learning Conferences, Seminars, Activities, public sharing & community engagement programmes

**By Application & Selection**
- Overseas Service-Learning Conferences
- Overseas Service-Learning Summer Institute
Balance of Power

- Community-based S-L
- Propose a S-L in consultation with com partners
- Meets the needs identified by com partner
Examples of UniSIM students’ current Service-Learning community collaborations

Environment
- Promotion and inculcation of animal conservation values through awareness campaigns.
- Continuous collaborative efforts with animal shelter organizations.

Diversity & Inclusion
- Conduct therapy sessions with the aid of therapy dogs to persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Promotion of social awareness through public events such as ‘free hugs’

Community-Building
- Provide home improvement services to lower income houses.
- Coordinate social activities to engage with lone older adults.

Vulnerable Children/Youth
- Provide free tuition sessions to lower income students.
- Empower children to have an optimistic mindset towards their everyday life and academic attainments.

Ageing/Elderly
- Educate elderly on the risk of social isolation.
- Raise awareness on the availability and accessibility of services offered.
- Conduct regular visits to promote intergenerational relationship.
International Service-Learning Option
Overseas Experience Requirement
International Service–Learning Approach

Students are encouraged to consider:

• Exploring global concerns related to local service-learning
• Collaborating with local community partner
• Involving local service-learning community members
• Sustainability of projects
Service–Learning Methodology in ISL

• Service component
• Facilitated process to meet learning goals
• Emphasis on both service and learning through meaningful, reciprocal service projects and engagement with host community to achieve learning goals:

Community

Civic

Academic
UniSIM International Service-Learning Expeditions

✓ Overseas partnership support from OSD
✓ Expedition proposed by students, endorsed in writing by OSD
✓ Fulfils Overseas Experience requirements
✓ Reconnaissance trip by leader
  ✓ 6-month validity
  ✓ Needs & impact assessment
  ✓ Relationship & rapport building
✓ 14-21 full overseas service-learning days
Potential International Service-Learning Destinations

**SE Asia**
- Cambodia
- Philippines
- Indonesia
- Myanmar
- Malaysia
- Thailand
- Laos

**East Asia**
- Hong Kong
- Taiwan
- South Korea
- Japan
- China

**South Asia**
- India
- Bhutan
- Nepal
National Context: Youth Expedition Project

• Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth
• Singapore’s funding agency for ISL
• National benchmark
• Since 2000
• 30,000 youth
• 1,500 projects – ASEAN, China, India
3 Key Phases of ISL

Preparation

• E.g. field study/research on relevant local community
• Social issues in Singapore & overseas host community

Overseas Project

• Team plans & executes an Overseas Project involving an overseas host partner from a non-profit organisation or representatives from the overseas host community

Local Project

• FT students may report their existing local S-L projects
• Encourage non- UniSIM FT student participants to join local S-L projects for a minimum of 3 months
International Service–Learning Team Composition

• Roles:
  – ISL Leader
  – ISL Facilitator (OSD staff/adjunct)
  – Faculty Resource Person

• Minimum 10 team members (smaller group size subject to approval)

• At least 20% of the team should be from a different ethnic group or nationality (SG PRs)

• Minimum 2 certified First Aiders
ISL Leader

• UniSIM FT student
• At least 21 years old on departure date
• Valid YEP Leaders Training Course Certificate
• Teams exceeding 13 members require an additional leader (at least 18 years old)
ISL Facilitator

- OSD staff / adjunct
- Valid YEP Leaders Training Course Certificate / Trainer
ISL Faculty Resource Person

- UniSIM Faculty
- Valid YEP Leaders Training Course Certificate
National Context: YEP Leaders Training Course
• 4 day, including field component
• Content:
  – Social Sector Issues & Community Development
  – Partnership Development
  – Expedition Planning, Project Management, Programme Design
  – Facilitation
  – Leadership & Teamwork
  – Risk Management
  – Cross-cultural Learning
  – Community of Practice
Pilot Proposal

- Small teams
- One-month individual attachments to community agencies
Thank You