

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

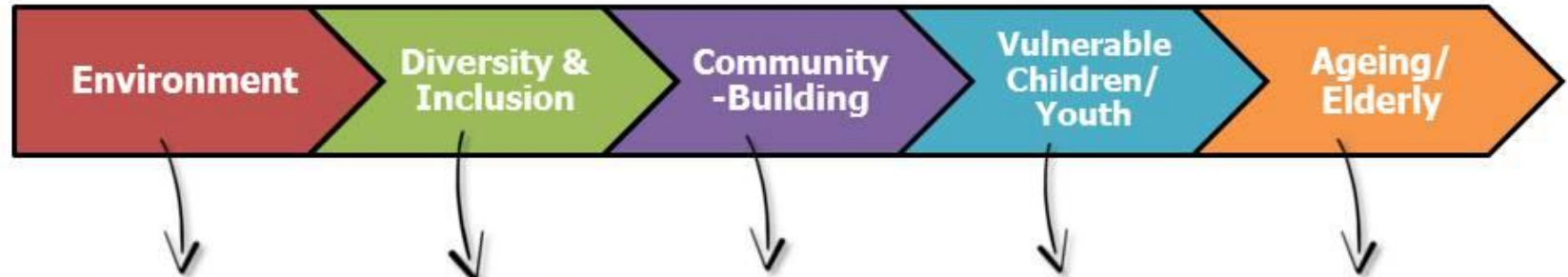
By Application & Selection

- 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



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



- 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'



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



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



- 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

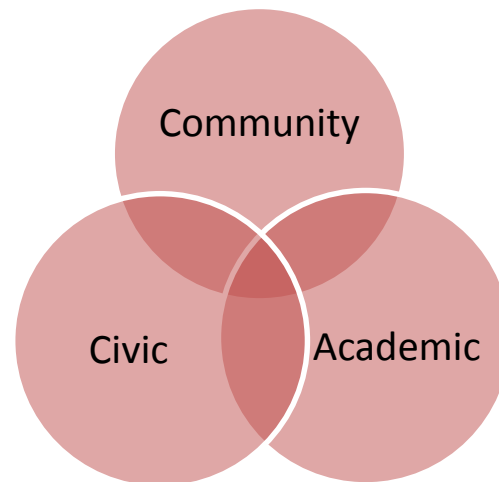
Students are encouraged to consider:

- 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:



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