

W. T. Chan Program at UCLA

Academic Seminars

The weekly seminars, conducted by the academic coordinator, start at the same time as internships and culminates mid-December. These seminars provide a breadth of information on knowledge about and exposure to social services, public policy, public service and civic engagement issues. The academic coordinator facilitates the connection between theory and practice and provides for Fellows the opportunity to learn about other internship sites and the types of experiences other Fellows are having living in Los Angeles. The academic seminar serves to:

- Introduce service-learning as a teaching method, integrating service with academic study resulting in intentional and learning outcomes;
- Promote international and intercultural knowledge and sensitivity;
- Examine the value of a university/community partnership that addresses community needs through service and volunteerism;
- Gain knowledge about the nature and particularities of community based organizations in a large, diversified urban setting such as Los Angeles;
- Inspire participants to become change agents by developing appropriate community service projects in their homeland;
- Promote a life-long ethic of service, social consciousness and social responsibility;
- Encourage collaborative learning and dialogue on unique features and challenges of different internship experiences;
- Address the multicultural dimensions of the internship experiences;
- Provide ongoing reflection and assessment of fellows' life experience in LA; and
- Foster a deepening awareness of oneself as a Chan fellow.

A critical part of service-learning is the academic component, whereby, the “act of serving” is connected with the learning process. The weekly seminars held at UCLA provides a forum for the Fellows to express and share how they perceive and understand the issues on site and the surrounding community, solicit feedback and generate discussion on situations encountered, problem solve, and develop creative and innovative solutions. In addition, there are many planned activities such as guest speakers, class exercises and presentations by the Fellows. Themes for the sessions include:

- Political system and governmental processes
- Los Angeles demographics
- Developing a community service project and proposal writing
- Intercultural values in the work place
- University/Community Partnership
- Public Policy administration
- Directions in health care system

- Children and family services overview

Seminar Assignments –

A detailed list of seminar assignments and deadlines will be outlined in the seminar syllabus distributed on the first day of class. A few sample assignment descriptions are provided below:

- **Weekly Journals/Reflections** -- To facilitate documentation of internship activities and self-reflective professional and personal development, Fellows will be encouraged to maintain a daily log/journal of activities that describes their experiences and further reflect upon observations, feelings, opinions, and reactions. The reflections, as appropriate, will be shared during the sessions. The Fellows are required to submit a weekly reflection to the academic coordinator.
- **Final Project** –As a final project, the Fellows are responsible to compose and submit a comprehensive proposal (15-20 pages), including a narrative to explain need, objective, resources, budget, timeline, and assessment for a project that could possibly be implemented in their home towns.
- **Presentation** – The Fellows present the final proposal to the class at the end of quarter. The internship supervisors, host families, and those involved with Chan Program are invited to attend the session.
- **Evaluation Session** – In addition to the regular seminar sessions, the Fellows are required to attend an evaluation session before the Culmination Ceremony to discuss and reflect about the overall Chan program and to prepare for the Culmination Ceremony that is scheduled before the fellow's departure.

**W.T. Chan Academic Seminars
Service-Learning Program
Fall Quarter 2010**

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Course Objectives

1. Promote international and intercultural knowledge and sensitivity;
2. Examine the value of a University/Community partnership that addresses community needs through service and volunteerism;
3. Gain knowledge about the nature and particularities of community based organizations in a large, diversified urban setting such as Los Angeles;
4. Inspire participants to become change agents by developing appropriate community service projects in their homeland; and
5. Promote a life-long ethic of service, social consciousness, and social responsibility.

Course Format & Requirements

The course will involve lecture by the instructor and guest speakers as well as class discussion, exercises, and presentations by the Fellows.

Each Fellow will be responsible to:

- 1) Develop a project work plan for their final paper.
- 2) Develop a personal journal, which documents the Fellow's experiences highlighting success stories, challenges, insights, etc. Entries should be made weekly.
- 3) Prepare a final paper using the in-service training and seminar materials (details will be discussed in class).
- 4) Present their final paper to class at the end of Fall quarter.

Grading Criteria

Grades will be assigned based on class attendance, class participation, final project and final presentation.

Class Schedule (Thursdays 2:00)

- August 26** Introduction to class, exercises & assignments
Introduction to Service-Learning
Cold Water Video
- September 2** Reflections
UCLA Library System and Research
Tour of research library
- September 9** Reflections
“Service-Learning & Its Connection to Policy”
Guest Speaker: Kathy O’Byrne
- September 16** Reflections
Internship Goals and Learning Contracts
Guest Speaker: Jimmie White
- September 23** Reflections
Presentations by Fellows – overview of their internship sites
- September 30** Updates by Fellows – Class Project
“Developing a Community Service Project and Proposal Writing”
Guest Speaker: Eric Medina
- October 7** Presentation of Project Outlines by Fellows
Outline for Final Project: DUE
“Los Angeles Demographics”
Guest Speaker: Gary de la Rosa
- October 14** Reflections
“Intercultural Values in the Work Place”
Guest Speaker: Bob Ericksen
- October 21** Reflections
“University/Community Partnership: Addressing community needs through service-learning”
Guest Speaker: Jane Permaul
- October 28** “Introduction to Public Speaking”
Guest Speaker: Amanda Kenderes
Work on Class projects
1st Draft of Project (Due)
- November 4** Reflections
“Public Policy Administration”
Guest Speaker: Maciek Kolodziejczak (Kho-lo-jay-chalk)
- November 11** Holiday (NO CLASS)

**November 18 Reflections
Practice Final Presentations**

November 25 Thanksgiving Holiday (NO CLASS)

**December 2 Reflections
Review Final class projects
“Directions in Health Care Systems”
*Guest Speaker: Ingrid Trejo***

**December 9 Final Paper DUE
Final presentations**

January 13 Program Reflection & Assessment

January 20 Discussion & Preparation for Culmination Ceremony

January 22 CULMINATION CEREMONY!!!!