

COMMUNITY SERVICE STUDIES (MINOR)

The Community Service Studies (CSS) Minor is a multidisciplinary program that provides a framework for understanding and engaging in critical social issues at the level of community. While the notion of community is increasingly complex, the program explores the nuances of community as defined through the lens of groups with common affiliation, identity, or grievance that may be geographically or non-geographically based. The curriculum relies heavily on community-based service learning courses and is designed to provide students with a foundation of analytical, reflective, interpersonal, and leadership skills. Through supporting university partnerships with Chicago-area community-based organizations, students gain a local perspective on social justice issues, including those built on race, class, and gender inequalities and other forms of social, economic and political exclusion.

The practice of service is often shaped by particular economic and cultural circumstances related to power, privilege, and identity. A central component of CSS is the importance of viewing communities through an asset lens and thus working to support existing community strengths rather than responding to needs. Students minoring in CSS therefore develop strong critical self-reflection skills that guide them as future leaders in making ethical and socially responsible decisions.

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
CSS 201	CRITICAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	4
CSS 302	ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE	4
CSS 395	COMMUNITY INTERNSHIP	4
Select one EL-CbSL (community-based service learning) course from the Approved Electives list		4
Select two electives from the Approved Electives list		8

Approved Electives

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Select two electives as noted above:		8
ABD 275	BLACK FEMINIST THEORIES IN A U.S. CONTEXT ¹	
ABD 290	SPECIAL TOPICS	
ART 291	MURAL PAINTING ¹	
ART 292	COMMUNITY VIDEO PRODUCTION ¹	
ART 382	STUDENTS TEACHING ART IN THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM ¹	
ART 383	SERVICE LEARNING IN THE ARTS INTERNSHIP ¹	
ANT 322	COMMUNITY-BASED APPLIED PRACTICE	
CTH 247	ROMAN CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT IN CONTEXT	
CTH 248	CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES	
CTH 282	GOD, JUSTICE AND REDEMPTIVE ACTION	

CTH 290	THE LIFE AND TIMES OF VINCENT DE PAUL
CTH 293	NOTABLE VINCENTIAN WOMEN
CTH 341	LIBERATION THEOLOGY: THEORY AND PRACTICE ¹
CTH 354	SPECIAL TOPICS IN CATHOLIC THOUGHT
CTH 386	THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WORLD POLITICS
CMNS 205	COMMUNICATION, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY ¹
CMNS 323	SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
CMNS 361	GENDER AND COMMUNICATION
JOUR 374	COMMUNITY JOURNALISM
CSS 101	CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND REFLECTION
CSS 300	INTRODUCTION TO NON-PROFIT MANAGEMENT
CSS 310	RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PRISON
CSS 311	MASCULINITY, JUSTICE AND LAW
CSS 312	LAW AND POLITICS: PRISON POLICIES AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
CSS 378	COMMUNITY-BASED TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS
CSS 399	INDEPENDENT STUDY
CSS 320	COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS
ENV 245	URBAN AND COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE
ENV 344	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY
GEO 133	URBAN GEOGRAPHY - EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
GEO 242	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS II: COMMUNITY GIS
GEO 395	SEMINAR IN SELECTED TOPICS (Sustainable Urban Food Systems)
HON 351	HONORS SENIOR SEMINAR IN SERVICE LEARNING ¹
LST 202	CONSTRUCTING LATINO COMMUNITIES
LST 306	LATINO COMMUNITIES IN CHICAGO
LST 307	GROWING UP LATINO/LATINA IN THE U.S. ¹
LST 308	MOTHERHOOD IN LATINO COMMUNITIES ¹
PAX 200	COMMUNITIES WORKING FOR SUSTAINABLE JUSTICE AND PEACE: SERVICE IN CHICAGO AND THE U.S. ¹
PAX 212	SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CHANGE
PAX 220	SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE
PAX 231	ANALYZING POVERTY, ITS CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES
PHL 250	PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL CHANGE
PPS 231	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
PSC 218	AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICS
PSC 223	URBAN POLITICS
PSC 282	POLITICAL ACTION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ¹

PSC 286	CAMPAIGNS AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT
PSC 324	INEQUALITY IN AMERICAN SOCIETY
PSC 345	THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WORLD POLITICS
PSC 347	ETHICS IN WORLD POLITICS
PSC 362	THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
PSY 220	LATINX PSYCHOLOGY
PSY 305	PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ¹
PSY 306	SERVICE LEARNING ¹
PSY 310	CONNECTING WITH YOUTH THROUGH RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, AND SERVICE: QUARTER 1
PSY 311	CONNECTING WITH YOUTH THROUGH RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, AND SERVICE: QUARTER 2
PSY 312	CONNECTING WITH YOUTH THROUGH RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, AND SERVICE: QUARTER 3
REL 259	RELIGION AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT ¹
REL 283	ROMAN CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT IN CONTEXT
REL 322	FEMINIST ETHICS
REL 351	LIBERATION THEOLOGY ¹
SOC 200	SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WELFARE
SOC 212	COMMUNITY AND SOCIETY
SOC 231	RACE AND ETHNICITY IN THE CITY
SOC 248	RESISTING WHITE SUPREMACY
SOC 340	SOCIAL INEQUALITY
SOC 394	COMMUNITY BASED SOCIOLOGY
SOC 398	INTERNSHIP (upon approval) ¹
SPN 124	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I: SERVICE LEARNING ¹
SPN 125	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH II: SERVICE LEARNING ¹
SPN 126	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH III: SERVICE LEARNING ¹
SPN 391	SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF HERITAGE LANGUAGE LITERACY
SPN 393	LATINO MEDIA AND DIGITAL CULTURE LITERACY
SPN 394	LATINO CULTURAL LITERACY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
WGS 300	FEMINIST THEORIES
WGS 303	GENDER, VIOLENCE AND RESISTANCE
WGS 320	TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE: THEORY AND PRACTICE
WGS 387	TEEN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
WGS 394	WOMEN, SELF, AND SOCIETY SEMINAR
WRD 377	WRITING AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

Study Abroad Courses

Several Study Aboard experiences may be used to fulfill one or more course requirements for the Minor. Approval of these trips for the Minor must be obtained in consultation with the Director.

¹ EL-CbSL course.