Overview

The Community Engagement Scholars Course of Study is a four-year academic program that prepares students for lives as engaged citizens. Administered by the Community Engagement Initiative, a program of the Office of the Provost, this rigorous course of study provides students in any major a framework for integrating their academic study and co-curricular service experiences through participation in course work, community focused immersion programs, co-curricular service and development of an eportfolio.

The Community Engagement Scholars Faculty Review Board, appointed by the Deputy Director of the Community Engagement Initiative and inclusive of faculty from all colleges, has oversight. The Faculty Review Board works in conjunction with the Community Engagement Initiative staff, who are responsible for the day-to-day administration of the course of study.

In the first year, scholars take two academic courses: Introduction to Civic Engagement (1 credit) and Changing the World: The Role of Public Policy (3 credits). In the following years scholars participate in semester or summer-based immersion programs, service trips and volunteer opportunities. Scholars receive enhanced advising from CEI to integrate a community engagement focus into coursework, culminating in an eportfolio that is submitted to the faculty review board.

Applying to the Community Engagement Scholars course of study

Incoming first year students receive an invitation to apply from Enrollment Services shortly after they receive their UD acceptance letter.

Current students may apply between their first semester and the end of their sophomore year.

Program requirements can be found on the reverse side.

CONTACTS

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Must earn 18 credits of academic coursework, maintain a 3.2 overall GPA and a C+ or better in all courses applied to this course of study, as well as meet all other requirements.

- 1 Credit of SPPA 100: Introduction to Civic Engagement
- 3 Credits of UAPP 110: Changing the World: The Role of Public Policy
- 9 Credits from major or minor that relates to scholar’s goals in community engagement. Courses must meet at least one of the following criteria:
  - Hold the Discovery Learning Experience service-learning designation.
  - Meet one of the following General Education goals:
    - Engage in constructive ideation;
    - Work collaboratively across a variety of cultures;
    - Work individually across a variety of cultures;
    - Critically evaluate ethical implications.
  - Approval from the Faculty Review Board.
- No less than 2 credits of coursework that integrates service and academics.
- 3 credits of a capstone/culminating experience with major or minor.
- Participation in one established immersion program with a community engagement focus. This may include a summer community engagement program, academic year programming, service learning study abroad or domestic program, internship with a non-profit or governmental agency, other experience as approved.
- Record of 160 hours of participation and reflection in community based service. These hours may be earned in any combination of fall, winter, spring, and/or summer sessions and may include activities pursued through curricular and co-curricular experiences.
- Submission in the senior year of an eportfolio that includes a record of academic and other requirements, reflection pieces, record of service, and a synthesis that explains the impact of the Community Engagement Scholars four year course of study on the scholar’s development as a civically-engaged citizen.