

Civic-Minded Student Workshop

Student Case Studies:

Students were asked the following questions to create the below case studies, (*actual names were not used*)...

- Major/ Minor?
- What is the title, topic, or focus of your Senior Composition Project?
- Do you see connections between your Service Leadership (i.e. either your direct Bonner and community work, trainings, service trips, network opportunities) and your academic studies?
- Has your Service experience influenced what you have decided to focus on in your Senior Comp?
- How has your participation in your service-orientated program had an influence on your career goals?
- What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

#1 Rita

Major/ Minor: Psychology/Middle Eastern and North African Studies

Year: Junior

Topic of Senior Composition Work:

How does the degree of identity in female Arab-Americans impact their self-esteem?

Bonner Service Sites:

- (*Local*) Ben Franklin School of Industry: Local Youth Education Center focused on the application of science, mathematics, language and industrial arts in a non-traditional educational setting to help build social skills, and trade skills.
- (*Summer Away*) Summer Internship at the Bonner Foundation - Immersion in best practices of event management and support in the planning and implementation of meetings and conferences. Helped design trainings and online resources to strengthen the Bonner Network.

Academic Connection:

This student expressed a direct connection between their Bonner Service work and Academic Work stating: "Both my major and my minor I feel are important and I would have not decided to declare in these fields if it wasn't for Bonner. I feel as though I am being exposed to so much more with this major and minor"

This student expressed a direct connection between their Bonner Service work and their decision for their Senior Composition Project topic stating:

"Third culture kids is what Bonner is all about. People from minority groups being helped by Bonner to get a college degree. My comp is to see how female Arab Americans degree of identity cause them to have low self-esteem and how to possible fix that."

Career Goals:

The student did express that their Bonner work has influenced their career goals

What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

"Go to graduate school and get a degree in social work!"

#2 Allison

Major/ Minor: Psychology/no minor yet

Year: Junior

Topic of Senior Composition Work:

Whether or not the effects of phencyclidine can be classically conditioned in rats?

Bonner Service Sites:

- (Local) Forest Green Estates: Youth Outreach afterschool program provided for youth living in a low-income housing complex. Assisting with the development and facilitation of educational and social skill building programming.

Academic Connection:

This student expressed no connection between their Bonner Service work and Academic Work stating: “(at my service site) I’m a mentor”

This student expressed no connection between their Bonner Service work and their decision for their Senior Composition Project topic.

Career Goals:

The student did express that their Bonner work has influenced their career goals

What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

“Law School”

#3 George

Major/ Minor: Psychology/Education

Year: Senior

Topic of Senior Composition Work:

Public secondary school teacher’s attitudes on and barriers to implementing LGBT inclusive curriculum

Bonner Service Sites:

- (Local) Saint Benedict’s Education Center- Assisted with Teaching Career education classes and supported adult learners in vocational skill building for Job readiness.
- (Local) United Way of Western Crawford County: Student Skilled Projects Coordinator assisting with the local Community Improvement Center to generate resources and volunteers to complete immediate home repair needs for low-income and elderly individuals in Crawford County.
- (Summer Away) Breakthrough Collaborative: Teaching Assistant for 5th Grade Science Class: assisted with developing and facilitating classroom curriculum.

Academic Connection:

This student expressed a direct connection between their Bonner Service work and Academic Work stating: “My Bonner work provides me with real world/life experiences that I can bring to class discussion”

This student expressed that there might be a connection between their Bonner Service work and their decision for their Senior Composition Project topic stating: “Bonner helped me with “coming out” and so if I would have never came out, I would’ve never comped on such a topic”

Career Goals:

The student did express that their Bonner work has influenced their career goals.

What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

“Something in the education field -- including teaching.”

#4 Carl

Major/ Minor: Global Health Studies & Economics Double Major

Year: Junior

Topic of Senior Composition Work:

Waste Management

Bonner Service Sites:

- (Local) Fit Kids Program: Developing wellness programming for elementary age students focused on physical, mental, and emotional wellness along with healthy food access.
- (Summer Away) Global Health Internship in Moldova: Learning about the Moldovan Health System. Volunteering and research with an environmental NGO that advocated for sustainable development.

Academic Connection:

This student expressed that there might be a connection between their Bonner Service work and Academic Work stating: "I am not sure because I do not know in what aspects of waste management I will be focused on"

This student expressed that there might be a connection between their Bonner Service work and their decision for their Senior Composition Project topic stating: "Somehow, because community service has always been my main source of inspiration"

Career Goals:

The student did express that their Bonner work has influenced their career goals.

What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

"Finance Industry and Civic Engagement"

#5 Sam

Major/ Minor: French & Spanish / Education Minor

Year: Senior

Topic of Senior Composition Work:

Images of Cuban Exile Experience in Paris

Bonner Service Sites:

- (Local) Crawford County Read Program: Co-Teacher & Development Coordinator: assisting with developing and facilitating adult education classes for those seeking a GED.

Academic Opportunity:

- Participation in Study Away programs in both Cuba and in Paris- each one semester long

Academic Connection:

This student expressed that there might be a connection between their Bonner Service work and Academic Work stating: "In a sense, the experiences of exile come from the idea of understanding multiple experiences that I have learned from Bonner"

This student expressed there might be a connection between their Bonner Service work and their decision for their Senior Composition Project topic stating: "The experiences I have gained through service give me a new perspective to bring to my (Senior Composition)"

Career Goals:

The student did express that their Bonner work has influenced their career goals.

What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

"Go on to either a master program for Education or Teach for America"

6 Matt

Major/ Minor: Communication Arts and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Double Major

Year: Junior

Topic of Senior Composition Work:

An Ethnographic Exploration of Rural Queer Community Organizing

Bonner Service Sites:

- (Local) Martin Luther King Jr. Mentoring Program: Student Coordinator: Development and facilitation of group and one-on-one educational and academic support for middle school students.

Academic Connection:

This student expressed a direct connection between their Bonner Service work and Academic Work stating: "My work consists of community engagement and an examination of community organizing/activism in a rural context."

This student expressed a direct connection between their Bonner Service work and their decision for their Senior Composition Project topic

Career Goals:

The student did express that their Bonner work has influenced their career goals stating: “My participation has allowed me to build connections throughout the community”

What do you hope to do professionally after graduating from Allegheny?

“Social Work or Education”

Questions:

Where is the student on the Venn diagram?

Does the focus of the student's Senior Project have potential to be an Engaged Signature Project?

How could you imagine you or a member of your faculty assisting this student in integrating their diverse experiences as they move toward graduating as a Civic Minded Graduate?