

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND NON-PROFIT STUDIES · SPRING 2022
PSYCHOLOGY 312SL / INTERDISCIPLINARY 312

A hybrid, service-learning course
INSTRUCTOR: MICHELLE NIX, MAASJ

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

This 3-credit hour course has been designated as a service learning course that will include classroom and online instruction, a meaningful community service, and student reflection activities designed to enhance the student's learning.

"The primary objectives of Service-Learning at Carson-Newman through *c-nvolved* are



1. To increase the student's intercultural awareness
2. To improve the student's critical reflection capabilities."

"Service-Learning differs from volunteer work, community service or internships in that students participate in an organized service activity to which the student applies course content and knowledge."

Students will explore good practices for building strong non-profit organizations through grass-roots organizing, powerful group development, strengthening social infrastructure and empowering communities to help themselves.

In this course, the organized service activity is the student development of a social venture proposal while working in teams. The proposal will be a venture to start or improve an organization, program, or project that addresses human need and creates social change for the common good.

In addition to the development of the proposal, students will present their proposal and pitch their idea to a panel of community representatives. Students will be given feedback from the panel on their proposals and be evaluated on the innovation, feasibility and impact of their proposed social venture.

This course offers students the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge with personal and social skills to address community needs and social injustice in a real-life scenario. This class will allow students to identify and reflect on their own assumptions of human need, working with others, civic responsibility, leadership potential, and real-life problem solving.

For Social Entrepreneurship majors, this course project will be further developed in future courses.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Michelle Nix, Master of Arts in Applied Social Justice

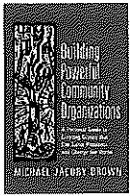
Email: hnix@cn.edu

Ph. 865-940-1286

Virtual Office Hrs: Thursdays 7pm to 9pm*

I do not have an office on campus, so I have set aside times for immediate response to student questions. However, please contact me any time with questions or concerns, and I will respond within 24 hours to your call or email. I will also be available to schedule times to meet in person with you, and this may be necessary during the development of your social venture proposal.

REQUIRED TEXTS:



Michael Jacoby Brown (2007), *Building Powerful Community Organizations: A Personal Guide to Creating Groups that can Solve Problems & Change the World*. Long Haul Press (available in the C-N bookstore)

You will need this text by January 14, 2020. This text will be used in all three Sections of the course.



Jim Horan (2012), *The One Page Business Plan: Nonprofit Edition*. One Page Business Plan Company (available in the C-N bookstore)

You will need this text by March 9, 2020.

HYBRID COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

This course requires 2-hour class meetings throughout the semester on Carson Newman campus, Thursdays, 6:15pm, Chambliss, Room 105. An additional 1 hour class requirement will be fulfilled through online assignments and social venture project preparation. Additional meeting times are available if requested.

Students must be able to access CNU online learning platform, Edvance360. Please contact the C-N IT Help Desk at 865-471-3506 for any assistance required with accessing and using this platform.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course will be divided into three sections: PREPARATION, IMPLEMENTATION, and REFLECTION. Within each section, your discussion posts, assignments, and papers/tests will be on focused on the section's purpose. You must access the Lessons Tab in Edvance360 to view your specific assignments, discussion posts, due dates, etc.

1. PREPARATION In Section One, we will be focusing on preparing for the social venture proposals. We will review the basic ideas that you learned in Psy 212 and applying the concepts to "real-life" organizations. We will read Michael Jacoby Brown's text, *Building Powerful Community Organizations*. Grants, grant-writing, and community needs assessments will also be a part of this initial section. Many assignments will involve personal assessment and reflection. You will have a test on these concepts at the end of the section.
2. IMPLEMENTATION We will be reading and completing exercises in the Jim Horan text. We will also refer back to the Brown text from Section 1. During this section, you will work in your social venture team and completing assignments as a team as we read Jim Horan's text. This text will guide you as you are developing your social venture proposal. There will also be a test at the end of the section on the general concepts in the text. Your team will present your proposal to a panel of community leaders and social entrepreneurs. I will gladly meet with any team outside of the regular seminars prior to the proposal presentations.
3. REFLECTION In the final section of the course, you return to working independently and reflect on your experience in the course, specifically to the development and implementation of your social venture proposal. You will write a critical reflection paper addressing your understanding of social entrepreneurship, community needs, your service-learning experience, and personal insights on cultural assumptions and attitudes throughout the process. You will articulate your knowledge and application of classroom concepts to the social venture proposal experience.

COURSEWORK & GRADES:

<u>Coursework Responsibility</u>	<u>Points</u>
Discussion Posts	120
Assignments	130
Tests	100
Social Venture Proposal	200
Reflection Paper	50
TOTAL	600

Points	Percentage	Grade
540-600	100-90%	A
473-539	89-80%	B
415-474	79-70%	C
390-414	69-65%	D
389-0	64-0%	F

Discussion Posts: I will post a discussion starter and state the expected length of response (such as 1-2 paragraphs, 1-2 sentences, etc.). Each post will be related to the lesson of the week.

Assignments: You will have a total of 130 points of assignments throughout the course. All assignments should be presented well including use of correct grammar and spelling. You must submit your assignments via the Dropbox and name your documents with your last name and assignment number. For example, "NixA1.doc" would be the appropriate name for my first submitted assignment.

Tests: You will have two tests this semester over the material covered. Each test will be worth 50 points and will be taken through Edvance360. The tests will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

Social Venture Proposal: Develop, practice, and present an original social venture to address a community-defined problem. A detailed explanation of points is available in the Resources Folder in Edvance360. To complete this proposal, you will be working in teams of 2 to 4 people. However, this project has components that you will receive individual grades. It is possible that each team member can receive a different amount of total points.

Reflection Paper: Write a critical reflection paper of your service-learning experience. This paper will be due after proposal presentations. This paper will be your final assignment. A detailed explanation is available in the Resources Folder.

COURSE POLICIES:

- ❖ Compliance with Hybrid Course Requirements listed above.
- ❖ Online etiquette, civility, and respect – Students are expected to attend exhibit appropriate online behavior when posting comments or otherwise communicating with other students and the instructor. Students are expected to be courteous and polite to each other in discussion in class. It is acceptable to disagree with another classmate or the instructor respectfully. In this course, you will work together in teams and present your ideas to a panel of local community representatives. Therefore, professionalism is expected.
- ❖ Policy on “excused absences” — There are no “excused absences.” Each week of non-communication counts as an absence. You may make-up exams and other assignments if your absence is due to a documented illness, death of an immediate family member, or participation in an official college-sponsored activity; but the absence still counts as an absence.
- ❖ Late work – I will accept late work, but 10% will be deducted per day except when you have a documented illness, personal emergency, or other official excuse. After one calendar week, I will not accept late assignments. As we move into Sections 2 and 3, your assignments will build on each other as you prepare your final venture proposal project. If you turn in late assignments, you will not receive my feedback to move on to the next portion of your project.
- ❖ Syllabus and Lessons - You are responsible for following the information in Edvance 360 in the Lessons tab and email correspondence from me. The syllabus is a tentative plan for the term. I reserve the right to modify it if needed to accomplish course objectives, and any changes will be announced online.
- ❖ Learning disabilities and other needs - Any student with a documented special disability (sight, hearing, mobility, learning disability, etc.) which may affect class activities or performance should contact Dr. David Humphrey, 865-471-3268, dhumphrey@cn.edu. I will make appropriate accommodations in line with that recommended by Mr. Humphrey.
- ❖ Honor code - Psychology has a code of ethics that applies to professionals and students alike. Plagiarism, cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty are serious violations of the Honor Code for this course. Consequences can range from failing the exam, report, or project, to failing the entire course, to suspension from the college. See the C-N Student Handbook for the full statement of our campus policy on academic dishonesty.