Checklist for Developing Community-Engaged Courses

As you begin to think about community engagement as a part of your course and as you talk with community partners, incorporate these components for development of a strong and effective course.

✓ Statement of goals, expectations, and responsibilities
  o For faculty,
  o For students,
  o For community partner
  This set of statements is essential and is a product of ongoing conversation and development of understanding of and appreciation for differences in cultures and practice.

✓ What are the community-based activities students will perform? How do they connect with the academic content of the course? How do they meet community partners’ priorities? With your community partner, develop a plan for community-based activity with strong connection to academic concepts taught in the course.

✓ How will you prepare students for community engagement?
  Include a clear and accurate description of the activity and goals and objectives and evaluation; time and effort expectations; cultural sensitivity; training for the tasks involved; safety awareness; transportation logistics; and introduction to the work of the community partner.

✓ How will you help students connect course content and community-engaged activities?
  Develop class activities and assignments to assist students in making the connection between course content and their community engagement and in applying academic content to that activity.

✓ How will you plan for evaluation of the unique focus of the course and of achievement of project goals?

✓ What is your plan for sustainability of the faculty/community partnership with your department and with your community partner (continuing partnership, type(s) of activity, once a year or every quarter, commitment from partner organization and from department)?

For more information, or for resources for course planning, contact the Office of Service-Learning and Community-Engaged Teaching at The Ohio State University, slearning@osu.edu, or visit our website http://service-learning.osu.edu.