

Brockport Vietnam Program

Winter 4 Week Program

Syllabus Service-Learning Course

The predominant feature of the Brockport Vietnam Program is the service-learning course which is delivered in conjunction with the academic portion of this program. Students will engage in service-learning activities consistent with humanist philosophy in the form of direct aid to service populations identified by Vietnamese partners. Students will be expected to deliver services relying upon their academic knowledge of Vietnamese culture, politics, history, and language in a culturally sensitive manner. Students provide direct aid 5 days per week for a total of 20 hours per week. Students will critically reflect upon service learning activities in the following 6 domains; personal, political, emotional, intellectual, moral, and spiritual. Students will journal daily about how these activities impact their personal growth and development as an individual. In a group seminar, students will discuss with their instructors and one another their service-learning activities. Students are required to consider the potential impact that their growth might have on civic participation, personal responsibility for the common good, and the influence that their learning might have on their sense of being in the world. Students will provide direct aid at The Thanh Tam Special School, the Danang City Orphan Center, The Danang City Social Welfare Center, and will conduct home visits to families affected by Agent Orange related disabilities. The learning objectives are noted below.

Students are expected to:

1. Apply academic knowledge to service-learning activities in a culturally sensitive manner.
2. Assess the needs of service-populations and make recommendations for the provision of aid.
3. Utilize language skills in service delivery.
4. Keep daily journal detailing how academic knowledge influences (or does not influence) service delivery.
5. Demonstrate through journal the personal challenges confronted in service learning activities.
6. Critically reflect and demonstrate in journal the similarities/differences observed in service delivery in America and Vietnam.
7. Discuss and document the insights gained through weekly group seminar.
8. In the final journal reflection, re-read all journal entries. Students will synthesize and detail the influence of the program on their personal development in the domains of; personal, political, emotional, intellectual, moral, and spiritual growth. Students will write at least 5-pages in the final entry reflecting their growth and thoughts about how to apply their newly developed abilities, skills, knowledge, and growth upon return to the United States.

