

GSL: Global Service Learning (SA 2nd and 3rd year level)

GEP Course Code: 13953 – 214 or 13953 – 314

NB: This course requires students to apply and submit a series of responses for selection.



Introduction

Global Service Learning (GSL) is an experiential learning programme presented in collaboration with Ikaya Primary School in Kayamandi. It is comprised of 60 in-class hours and 45 hours of on-site community engagement at the 2nd year level. Class covers theory on education, sustainable development, social justice, and community engagement. The community engagement component takes place in a partner school and requires students to work in small groups with their teacher to design and implement basic lessons for 5 and 6 year old learners. These lessons align with the national curriculum but allow for the introduction of new and creative play-based learning activities into the school. This work at a local school is the ideal way to learn about major socio-political issues in South Africa and to practice principles of participatory community development. Despite the fact that students teach, *this is not a teaching program and no prior experience is required*. Participants are, however, expected to be comfortable with challenging themselves in new environments, and committed to seeing this challenging, but rewarding, experience through.

The academic and service components are complemented with field trips and sessions with various South African students to allow for deeper engagements with global issues as they present themselves in the South African context.

Students taking the course at the 3rd year level have additional responsibilities including a weekly seminar discussion with the lecturer (an additional 22.5 hours class time), extra and more advanced readings, and a self-directed research project.



Intended Programme Outcomes

Upon completion of the GSL course, participants at the 2nd year level should be able to;

- Understand connections between education, development and community engagement
- Understand themselves as actors in a developmental environment
- Display broadened trans-disciplinary, critical, and multicultural perspectives,
- Apply the skills to develop knowledge partnerships with community-based development agencies,
- Co-craft development interventions with their knowledge partners in a dialectical manner,
- Harness creativity to address gaps between theory and practice.

In addition, participants at the 3rd year level are expected to be able to;

- Have advanced knowledge of core course concepts
- Demonstrate advanced analysis of complex problems
- Integrate their own academic backgrounds into the course
- Articulate the complex interaction of various issues affecting education, development, and community engagement in the global system.
- Critically and self-reflectively situate themselves as actors in a developmental environment

GSL is a journey of personal discovery and growth

Duration: Full semester
Lecturer: Joe Warren (jwarren@sun.ac.za)
Lectures: **Mondays:** 08:00 – 12:00 (theory) and 12:30 – 14:00 (seminar, 3rd years only)
Venue: TBC
Engagement: **Fridays:** 08:00 – 11:00 (practical)
Venue: iKaya Primary School
Credits: 2nd Year: 6 US credits; 12 ECTS credits, 3rd Year: 9 US credits; 18 ECTS credits
First meeting: TBC

