PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARS PROGRAM – SEMESTER 2

IU 281: Community-Engaged Research Skills and Strategies
Fall 2009 1-credit

Description:

Introduction to “best practices” research skills related to community-based, social action scholarship.

This class will consist of a weekly seminar meeting where you will be introduced to, and engage with, various strategies for doing academic research related to your community-based social action service experiences.

A weekly seminar meeting will include discussion of research strategies, guest speaker presentations, library-based research training, and student presentations of works in progress.

Learning Goals

1) Demonstration of effective research skills and research strategies, including:
   a. Identification of quality source materials,
   b. Ability to read and evaluate primary and secondary academic sources,
   c. Ability to elaborate insightful research questions,
   d. Capacity to complete an annotated bibliography based on the primary research question(s)

2) Completion of a brief, preliminary OUTLINE for an advanced research project that is intended to be academically rigorous while having significant public value.

Community Service/Social Change Experience

During this semester, students will be engaged in a service experience (internship, practicum, or independent service/field experience) with a government, non-profit or non-governmental organization dedicated to service and social change at the local, national, and/or global levels. Each student will have a wide range of choice on their placement site.

Completion of the Public Service Scholars Program will require submission of a final portfolio containing examples of service and academic work completed throughout the program.