POSSIBLE LEARNER OUTCOMES

The following is a list of learning outcomes that research has shown are often (though not certain) achieved through service learning. One significant aspect of an effective service learning experience is for the student and instructor to review these possible outcomes and identify which are most important to the student and then set goals accordingly.

- Personal growth and development
- Self-esteem, sense of personal worth and competence
- Self-understanding, insight into self
- Independence, autonomy, assertiveness
- Sense of usefulness, of satisfaction in doing something worthwhile
- Personal power, belief in ability to make a difference
- Conscious set of personal values and beliefs reinforced in action
- Openness to new experiences, to take risks and accept challenge
- Ability to take responsibility, acknowledge consequences of actions
- Capacity to be productive, to stay determined in difficult tasks
- Exploration of new identities, unfamiliar roles
- Intellectual development and academic learning
- Basic academic skills (writing, reading, calculating, etc.)
- Subject matter knowledge and skills gained and enhanced through a broader range of experiences and associations
- Knowledge and understanding of people, of social reality, of how to get things done in a democratic society
- Higher-level thinking skills (critical thinking, problem solving)
- Application of academic knowledge and skills to real problems
- Skills learned from experience (to observe, ask questions, synthesize)