Criteria for SLC Designation

1. The service-learning component of the course (or section), as described in the syllabus, must reflect Western Carolina University’s definition of service learning.

2. The syllabus must show direct and deliberate connections between the community service and the course content and must explain how these connections will support or enhance student learning.

3. The community agency or service site must be appropriate to the course goals, and service placements must not create a religious, political, and/or moral conflict for the student. (A list of recommended or selected sites should be included in the syllabus or attached to the application.)

4. Students must complete at least five hours of community service for each credit hour (i.e., 15 service hours for a three-credit course).

5. The service-learning component must count for no less than 20 percent of the total course grade.

6. The reflection (learning assessment) method or activity must be specified in the syllabus.

7. Students will earn academic credit for learning that is demonstrated and assessed (rather than for the service itself).