

Being part of HRALC involves...

engaging in significant community outreach. That's a defining part of our identity, the "A" in HRALC, the *service in service-learning*, the experiential complement to our year-long engagement with human rights. You certainly had a choice about joining or not joining HRALC, but now that you're in, the 35+ hours of service per semester, plus some structured opportunities to reflect on it, are bedrock expectations. UConn codifies this in a one-credit

course, and while course credit shouldn't ever be the driving reason for service—lest it become all drudgery and counting hours—the course provides (we think) a useful infrastructure.

Learning Community Service-Learning UNIV 1840

Instructors:

Silke Grafnitz

OFFICE | PHONE

silke.grafnitz@uconn.edu

Tom Deans

CLAS 132 | 860.486.9728

tom.deans@uconn.edu

Basic Expectations. The grading is pass/fail and once you check *all* these boxes, you pass. Miss even one, and well...you don't pass. No exceptions, no alternatives. It's not that hard: just do these 7 things.

- Review your options and come up with a plan during the first 3 weeks of the semester.*
- Schedule meeting with Silke or Tom no later than Sept 30 to discuss your plan.*
- Keep a log of your hours and gather documentation.*
- Contribute to the online class forum. 7 posts minimum, with the first one no later than Oct 10, the second no later than Oct. 17, regularly paced thereafter, and all completed by Nov 21. We'll talk about what counts as a "post"—at least one robust paragraph with something meaningful at stake*
- Contribute at least 3 responses to other people's posts. The first one must be done earlier than Oct 17 and the last one no later than Nov 21.*
- Schedule a mid-semester check-in meeting with Silke or Tom no later than October 23.*
- Submit log, documentation, and a brief end-of-semester reflection-and-looking-ahead-to-next-semester plan by Dec 1.*

A Few Caveats

- Just fundraising for an organization won't cut it, although fundraising + meaningful engagement could work
- Research or work done as part of another class, lab, or internship can't count
- Work with for-profit organizations isn't in the spirit of this kind of service
- You can do your service through alternative breaks, although if you do, tally only those hours of direct service
- Working with a service or religious organization in your home town is fine, but please discuss details and documentation with Silke
- Working with a campus organization is also possible, so long as it has a clear social justice mission



The key thing here is to seek out meaningful service, share what you're doing and thinking, and make connections that matter