Knowledge and Skills across Engaged Learning Courses: The Integration of Community-Based Research and Dialogue Facilitation

RESEARCH

KNOWLEDGE

- What community-based research is, and its scope
- What community-based research offers a community
- How to apply community-based principles to existing research
- How to foster sustainability of community-based research
- What is involved in a community needs assessment

SKILLS

- Conducting a literature review
- Creating a survey instrument
- Observations
- Interviewing
- Collecting data
- Supervising research assistants
- Data management
- Quantitative data analysis
- Qualitative data analysis
- Graphic design for presenting data
- Discussing findings, respectfully and meaningfully, with agency staff and community members; using dialogue in these discussions
- Grant writing

SOCIAL JUSTICE/INEQUALITIES/IDENTITIES

KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of basic income and wealth inequalities across the country and demographics
- Critical thinking about social identities, one’s own and others
- Awareness of own identities and how affect various situations
- Long-term impact of social justice interventions

SKILLS

- Talking about inequality in accessible way
- Talking with community members of different identities
- Managing resistance
- Managing trauma
- Naming my privilege and privilege in group dynamics
- Collective reflection on social justice learning
- Challenging others
• Planning dialogue (or conversation) sessions

COMMUNICATION and GROUP PROCESSES

KNOWLEDGE

• Principles of group dynamics
• Models of leadership
• Principles of management

SKILLS

• Active listening
• Asking questions, probing ideas of others
• Affirming others
• Working in groups/teamwork
• Seeking to understand/perspective taking
• Multitasking
• Managing resistance
• Naming
• Challenging
• Facilitation
  o Activities
  o Reflection
  o Conversations
  o Students/volunteers
  o Community leaders/liasions
  o Agency/organization staff

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ORGANIZATION

KNOWLEDGE

• Principles/theories of organizational development
• Strategies
• Organizational histories, missions
• What non-profits are
• Cultures of communities within community
• How to enter/exit a community
• What promotes sustainability

SKILLS

• Assessing what communities need/want
• Choosing appropriate strategies
• Building relationships with agency and community people
• Producing transparency
• Collaborating with community/agency people
• Interacting respectfully and meaningfully with agency and community people
• Speaking comfortably with community people
• Working in an unstructured environment
• Working within a hierarchy
• Event planning
• Public speaking
• Setting realistic goals
• Motivating/fostering community participation

INTRAPERSONAL/SELF-DEVELOPMENT

• Flexibility
• Adaptability
• Detail-oriented
• Planning/organized
• Problem-solving
• Multi-tasking
• Delegating
• Goal-oriented
• Critical thinking
• Resilient
• Time management
• Sense of agency