ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.

Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE 4/5/11

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College - University Service Learning

2. COURSE PROPOSED: USL 410 Service Learning: Independent Placement 3 (prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Deborah Ball Phone: 5-8092

Mail Code: 5511 E-Mail: Deborah.Ball@asu.edu

4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. AREA(S) PROPOSED COURSE WILL SERVE. A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study. (Please submit one designation per proposal)

Core Areas
Literacy and Critical Inquiry—L ☑
Mathematical Studies—MA ☐ CS ☑
Humanities, Fine Arts and Design—HU ☐
Social and Behavioral Sciences—SB ☐
Natural Sciences—SG ☐ SG ☐

Awareness Areas
Global Awareness—G ☐
Historical Awareness—H ☐
Cultural Diversity in the United States—C ☐

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.
(1) Course Description
(2) Course Syllabus
(3) Criteria Checklist for the area
(4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: ☑ No ☐ Yes; Please identify courses: ____________________________

Is this an unsessioned course?: ☑ No ☐ Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus? _________

Deborah Ball
Chair/Director (Print or Type) ____________________________

Chair/Director (Signature) ____________________________

Date: ____________

Rev. 1/94, 4/95, 7/98, 4/00, 1/02, 10/08
Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for

LITERACY AND CRITICAL INQUIRY - [L]

Rationale and Objectives

Literacy is here defined broadly as communicative competence in written and oral discourse. Critical inquiry involves the gathering, interpretation, and evaluation of evidence. Any field of university study may require unique critical skills which have little to do with language in the usual sense (words), but the analysis of spoken and written evidence pervades university study and everyday life. Thus, the General Studies requirements assume that all undergraduates should develop the ability to reason critically and communicate using the medium of language.

The requirement in Literacy and Critical Inquiry presumes, first, that training in literacy and critical inquiry must be sustained beyond traditional First Year English in order to create a habitual skill in every student; and, second, that the skills become more expert, as well as more secure, as the student learns challenging subject matter. Thus, the Literacy and Critical Inquiry requirement stipulates two courses beyond First Year English.

Most lower-level [L] courses are devoted primarily to the further development of critical skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, or analysis of discourse. Upper-division [L] courses generally are courses in a particular discipline into which writing and critical thinking have been fully integrated as means of learning the content and, in most cases, demonstrating that it has been learned.

Students must complete six credit hours from courses designated as [L], at least three credit hours of which must be chosen from approved upper-division courses, preferably in their major. Students must have completed ENG 101, 107, or 105 to take an [L] course.

Notes:

1. ENG 101, 107 or ENG 105 must be prerequisites
2. Honors theses, XXX 493 meet [L] requirements
3. The list of criteria that must be satisfied for designation as a Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L] course is presented on the following page. This list will help you determine whether the current version of your course meets all of these requirements. If you decide to apply, please attach a current syllabus, or handouts, or other documentation that will provide sufficient information for the General Studies Council to make an informed decision regarding the status of your proposal.
**Proposer:** Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Identify Documentation Submitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Checkbox]</td>
<td>![Checkbox]</td>
<td><strong>CRITERION 1:</strong> At least 50 percent of the grade in the course should depend upon writing, including prepared essays, speeches, or in-class essay examinations. Group projects are acceptable only if each student gathers, interprets, and evaluates evidence, and prepares a summary report.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Please describe the assignments that are considered in the computation of course grades—and indicate the proportion of the final grade that is determined by each assignment.

2. **Also:**

   Please circle, underline, or otherwise mark the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies this description of the grading process—and label this information "C-1".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>![Checkbox]</th>
<th>![Checkbox]</th>
<th><strong>CRITERION 2:</strong> The composition tasks involve the gathering, interpretation, and evaluation of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Please describe the way(s) in which this criterion is addressed in the course design.

2. **Also:**

   Please circle, underline, or otherwise mark the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies this description of the grading process—and label this information "C-2".

| ![Checkbox] | ![Checkbox] | **CRITERION 3:** The syllabus should include a minimum of two substantial writing or speaking tasks, other than or in addition to in-class essay exams | See C3 criterion explanation below and also highlighted in yellow on the syllabus. |

1. Please provide relatively detailed descriptions of two or more substantial writing or speaking tasks that are included in the course requirements.
2. Also:

Please circle, underline, or otherwise mark the information presented in
the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that
verifies this description of the grading process—and label this information
"C-3".
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

**CRITERION 4:** These substantial writing or speaking assignments should be arranged so that the students will get timely feedback from the instructor on each assignment in time to help them do better on subsequent assignments. *Intervention at earlier stages in the writing process is especially welcomed.*

- There is a grading rubric for each assignment. It is USL's policy for all assignments to be submitted in Microsoft Word so the instructor can grade using track changes. The graded assignment with comments are then uploading into Blackboard for students to receive feedback.
- Furthermore, the research paper is completed in 3 sections, proposal, annotated bibliography which includes a developed thes before submitting the final paper to guarantee instructor feedback.
- The Critical Reflection Series is split into 5 independent assignments, allowing for instructor feedback between each to build upon previous assignments.
- Developing a cohesive and progressive understanding of the course material and facilitating the accomplishment of course objectives.
- Any assignment rough draft may be submitted ahead of time for feedback. Students who struggle or need extensive feedback on assignments are asked to attend instructor office hours as well.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ASU - [L] CRITERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Please describe the sequence of course assignments—and the nature of the feedback the current (or most recent) course instructor provides to help students do better on subsequent assignments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2. | **Also:**

Please circle, underline, or otherwise mark the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies **this description** of the grading process—and label this information "C-4". |
<p>| C-4 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria (from check sheet)</th>
<th>How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)</th>
<th>Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Students complete 4 substantial assignments applicable to the General Studies Literacy Designation Criteria: 1) Research Paper – worth 16% of the students’ grade 2) Critical Reflection Series – worth 16% of the students’ grade 3) Pre &amp; Post – Service Reflection Assignments – worth 11.2% of the students’ grade 4) Oral Presentations (2 – Midterm &amp; Final) – worth 13.9% of the students’ grade Total – 57.1% of the overall grade Please see C2 &amp; C3 for further details of each of the 4 assignments.</td>
<td>C1 criterion is detailed on page 2 of the syllabus and highlighted in yellow. An explanation of the guidelines and extent of the writing assignments can be found on page 3 of the syllabus under Critical Reflection Criteria and Prc &amp; Post Service Critical Reflection, and details of the research paper and oral presentations can be found on page 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>The gathering, interpretation and evaluation of evidence is prevalent in all the course assignments (C1 criterion). All assignments prompt students to gather information from class lectures and workshops, assigned readings, community service and past experiences, analyze this information as well as compare and contrast the correlation of each element, and then interpret and evaluate those findings. Critical Reflection Assignments must be completed in a three step writing process. In each Critical Reflection Writing Assignment, students will: 1) Complete a review of a prompted subject correlated to a course topic (related to a social justice issue facing our contemporary American society</td>
<td>The C2 criterion is detailed in the course description and student objectives listed on the syllabus, and page 3 of the syllabus for Critical Reflection Criteria &amp; highlighted in Blue.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
such as discrimination, labor rights, poverty, problems facing our education system, health care issues, and environmental concerns). This will include a complete report of the prompted subject (the facts, their perspectives, background knowledge, historical relevance, cultural aspects and possible opposing perspectives).

2) Compare and Contrast the review in step 1 with assigned scholarly articles and in class lessons and workshops.

3) Critically analyze the significance of the topic and the larger implications of the greater societal context of the subject. The Research Paper must be submitted in APA style with a well developed thesis and must include an annotated bibliography. This paper is based on gathering, interpreting and evaluating evidence.

The oral presentations are a verbal variation of interpreting and reporting evidence of critical analysis and communicating the information in a concise and articulate manner. Students are graded on professional presentation skills, interpretation of content, and critical analysis of academic material.

| C3 | Students complete 4 substantial writing assignments that meet C3 criterion:
|    | 1. 10-12 page research paper on topic related to social justice facing the population served during community service hours. Prior to completing the paper, the students submit a topic proposal essay and an annotated bibliography.
|    | 2. Critical Reflection Series – as detailed in C2, this series of 5 essay assignments range from 3-5 pages of critical analysis, totally 15-25 pages over the series.
|    | 3. Pre & Post –Service Reflection Assignments – as detailed in C2, students are asked to complete a critical analysis of course topics. The pre-test generates a 5 page

See the assignments on page 1 & 3 of the syllabus and highlighted in yellow, though other C1 criterion is also highlighted in yellow.
| Essay and the post-servic assignment generates a 7 page essay for a total of a 12 page critical analysis. |
| 4. Oral Presentations (2 – Midterm & Final) – Students prepare and execute two oral presentations that demonstrate mastery of critical thinking and application of subject knowledge as well as its correlation to real-world service experiences. |
COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This is a graded internship that allows you to integrate your own coursework with a hands-on service learning experience. The central objective of this course is to provide students with community experiences and critical reflection opportunities that examine community needs, the importance of civic engagement, and the effects of social injustice, particularly those that affect ethnic minorities and marginalized populations, in our contemporary American society. Through 100 hours of dedicated service at a pre-approved site (including Title I K-12 schools, youth programs, health services, social services, environmental programs, government agencies, etc.) students directly serve a population in need or provide supporting activities that contribute to the greater good of our community. Classroom seminar activities provide a forum for critical thinking and analysis for a deeper understanding of cultural diversity, citizenship, and how to contribute to positive social change in our community. The course also provides 'real-world' experiences that exercise advanced academic skills and knowledge applicable to each student's program of study and career goals. Practicum. Prerequisite with a grade of "C" or higher: 45 hours earned and ENG 102.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
Student will refine essential skills associated with their baccalaureate studies to actively serve the local community. While completing this in-depth study of cultural diversity, citizenship and social justice issues facing our community, students will gain an understanding of the value of Social Embeddedness and the importance of incorporating civic engagement into their future career goals, as they strive to become productive citizens in our workforce. Students will research and analyze social justice issues affecting ethnic minorities and marginalized population and their implications for inequalities in education, health care, immigration, socioeconomic status, discrimination, the environment, labor rights, and other community issues. Students will also develop professional skills designed to lead to post baccalaureate employment.

INTERNERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES:
✓ Service hours – 100 hours of community outreach (spread throughout the semester in which you are enrolled in the course) serving a population in need with a pre-approved site partner (Title I school, nonprofit or community organization, or government entity). You must arrange your internship site placement, submit the online Internship Selection Form, and begin your service hours no later than the end of the 2nd week of the semester
✓ Weekly Seminar – Students are expected to attend class every week
✓ Online USL Account – Create a USL online student account, prior to or immediately after the first day of class. This system is used to submit timesheets & the Internship Selection Form which details service and goals
✓ Timesheets – Report service hours after each service shift including records of your activities during that time
✓ Service Learning Critical Reflection Assignments – In depth analysis of societal issues related to assigned scholarly articles, seminars and service to the community
✓ Research Paper – 3-Part (proposal, annotated bibliography and final draft) – APA style research paper
✓ Midterm & Final Reflection Presentation – 2 prepared speeches, midterm & final presentation (Must demonstrate mastery of critical thinking and application of subject knowledge as it relates real world service experiences

GRADING SYSTEM: Grading is based upon total number of points earned for the semester.
Grading Scale:
- 96%-100% = A+
- 93%-97% = A
- 90%-92% = A-
- 87%-89% = B+
- 83%-86% = B
- 82%-80% = B-
- 77%-79% = C+
- 70%-76% = C
- 60%-69% = D
- 59% and below = E

COURSE READINGS:


**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**


**Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due – Sunday at 11:59 pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 – 1/18</td>
<td>First class – Syllabus &amp; Service Find your internship</td>
<td>1/18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 – 1/25</td>
<td>Reflection &amp; SL, Vol &amp; CS Pre-service Reflection &amp; ISF w/ goals</td>
<td>1/30</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3 – 2/1</td>
<td>Civic Engagement &amp; Citizenship SL Assignment #1 &amp; Quiz Philipsen</td>
<td>2/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 – 2/8</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Justice (SJ) Recitation on Article 1</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 – 2/15</td>
<td>Diversity Assignment #2 Blackwell</td>
<td>2/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 – 2/22</td>
<td>Discrimination &amp; Privilege</td>
<td>3/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 – 3/1</td>
<td>Poverty Research Proposal</td>
<td>3/13</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 – 3/8</td>
<td>SJ – Education Assignment #3 Rothstein</td>
<td>3/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 – 3/15</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>3/29</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 – 3/22</td>
<td>Poster Session Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>3/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 – 3/29</td>
<td>SJ – Health Care &amp; Environment Assignment #4 Freeman &amp; Bogardus</td>
<td>4/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 – 4/5</td>
<td>SJ – Immigration Assignment #5 Daviess</td>
<td>4/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 – 4/12</td>
<td>Liability Concerns &amp; Funding Research Paper</td>
<td>4/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 – 4/19</td>
<td>Realistic Social Change Class Presentations</td>
<td>4/26</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 – 4/26</td>
<td>Class Presentations</td>
<td>5/5 (Due Thursday)</td>
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**GRADING CRITERIA**

**GRADED COMPONENTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of final grade</th>
<th>Calculation</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation:</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>Your pts / 100 x .18 =</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service hours – 100 (Time Logs approved by supervisor) 1 point per hour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time Log &amp; other paperwork submission on time:</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Your pts / 32 x .02 =</td>
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<td>2 points per 16 time logs (32 pts. total)</td>
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<td>Weekly Seminar:</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>Your pts / 225 x .24 =</td>
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<td>15 points per seminar x 15 times per semester (45 points of this are applied towards speeches – 5.4%)</td>
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| Service Learning Assignments: 375 Points | 40% | Your pts / 375 x .40 = |
| Pre-Service Reflection - 25 points | | |
| Internship Selection Form Goals - 30 points | | |
| Service Learning Article Reflections: 30 points each (5) = 150 | | |
| Poster Session - 40 points | | |
| Research Paper: | 16% | Your pts / 130 x .16 = |
| Proposal - 10 points Annotated Bibliography - 20 points | Add & convert to % for overall grade = |
| Final - 100 points | | |

The University offers course credit for the class seminar & academic coursework, not for the service. Because the service is a crucial basis for the seminar and coursework, the service is mandatory.

- Completion of 100 service-hours is necessary to receive maximum Participation Points.
Critical Reflection Criteria

Critical Reflection is a process designed to promote the examination and interpretation of experience and the promotion of cognitive learning. It is the process of analyzing the implications of actions taken, good and bad, and determining what has been gained, lost, or achieved and then connecting these conclusions to course curriculum, current research, future actions, and larger societal contexts. It is an essential process for transforming experiences gained from the service activities and the course materials into genuine learning. It enhances student’s critical understanding of the course topics and their ability to assess their own values, goals, and progress.

Critical Reflection Assignments must be completed in a three step writing process. In each Critical Reflection Writing Assignment, students will:

1) Complete a review of a prompted subject correlated to a course topic (related to a social justice issue facing our contemporary American society such as discrimination, labor rights, poverty, problems facing our education system, health care issues, and environmental concerns). This will include a complete report of the prompted subject (the facts, their perspectives, background knowledge, historical relevance, cultural aspects and possible opposing perspectives).

2) Compare and Contrast the review in step 1 with assigned scholarly articles and in class lessons and workshops.

3) Critically analyze the significance of the topic and the larger implications of the greater societal context of the subject.

Students complete two substantial critical reflection assignments:

1 – Critical Reflection Series – 5 essay assignments, each building upon the previous assignment resulting in an overall cohesive understanding of the topic. Each of the 5 assignments are graded separately providing students with regular feedback on their progress. (Each assignment ranges from 3-5 pages of writing for a total of 15-25 pages for the series

2 – Pre & Post Service Critical Reflection Assignments – Students follow the Critical Reflection process in prompted questions related to civic engagement, notion of citizenship, and other course objectives. This serves as an assessment that illustrates the students improvements in knowledge and application of subject matter from the beginning of the semester to the end. The pre-service reflection is a 5 page writing essay assignment and the post-service is 7 pages for a total of 12 pages for the pair.

Grading Policies

• Late assignments will lose 10% for each day and will not be accepted more than 5 days late
• All assignments must be submitted through Blackboard, in a MS WORD file (12 Font, Times New Roman, default margins) Assignments not submitted in this format will not be accepted!
• All assignments without a name will not be graded.
• Practice collegiate level writing, including thoughtful structure, proper grammar/punctuation
• Edit for content and errors
• Directly address each prompt question in any assignment
• Reflections must be complete! You will be marked down if responses leave grader asking “how so” or “why”
• * For every 3rd absence from class your FINAL grade will drop one letter grade
  o To have an absence excused, you must submit an EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE FORM to be approved by your instructor prior to an absence via email and documentation for the absence must be provided within one week of the absence.

Seminars

• The seminars are a vital piece of your reflection and learning. Attendance is expected!
• Tardiness to seminars will result in lost attendance & participation points for that day
• Each student is expected to sign in prior to class starting. Once class begins, anyone who signs in after will be marked late and deducted class points.
• Everyone is expected to participate in class discussions
• Cell phone usage during class will not be permitted
• Laptop users – the only laptop usage permitted during class is taking notes. During class discussions, please close your laptops.

Logging Service Hours

• You must register on our online system and submit all service paperwork (Timecards) there electronically
• One Timecard must be submitted each week once you begin your service (no later than week 3)
  o Timecards are due each week on Sunday, by 11:59 pm
  o For weeks you do not complete service, submit a Timecard reporting 0 hours
See the USL Student Handbook for details regarding the online system.

- Service hours must be performed at a site that has been pre-approved by University Service Learning.
- Service hours completed prior to the start of the semester or after the end of the semester do NOT count towards the service-hours requirement.

If a student fails to submit an Internship Selection Form (ISF) and start their internship by the end of the 2nd week, he/she must submit an Action Plan. Then, will have one additional week to submit their ISF and start his/her service or will be administratively dropped from the course.

**University Policies**

- **Professional Behavior**
  It is expected that students exhibit professional behavior inside the classroom, during intern placements, and working with other students outside of the class on assignments related to this class in addition to behavior in the classroom on ASU’s campus. If at any time your behavior is ‘unprofessional’, the instructor may refer the student to the Director of the Advising, Recruitment, and Retention Office (ARRO) in the student’s home department for the development of a Professional Improvement Plan (PIP).

- **Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**
  The ASU Student Handbook contains the following information: “The highest standards of academic integrity are expected of all students. The failure of any student to meet these standards may result in suspension or expulsion from the university and/or other sanctions as specified in the academic integrity policies of the individual academic unit. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, fabrication, tampering, plagiarism, or facilitating such activities. The university and unit academic integrity policies are available from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University and from the deans of the individual academic units.”

  The rest of the code, which consists of several pages, is available at the following URL: http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm.

- **Disability Accommodations for Students**
  Students who feel they may need a disability accommodation(s) in class must provide documentation from the Disability Resource Center (Downtown campus UCB 160, Polytechnic campus Sutton Hall 240, Tempe campus Matthews Center, or West campus UCB 130) to the class instructor verifying the need for an accommodation and the type of accommodation that is appropriate. Students who wish accommodations for a disability should contact DRC as early as possible (i.e. before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student’s responsibility to make the first contact with the DRC.

- **Religious Accommodations for Students**
  Students who need to be absent from class due to the observance of a religious holiday or participate in required religious functions must notify the faculty member in writing as far in advance of the holiday/obligation as possible. Students will need to identify the specific holiday or obligatory function to the faculty member. Students will not be penalized for missing class due to religious obligations/holiday observance. The student should contact the class instructor to make arrangements for making up tests/assignments within a reasonable time.
USL 410 Service Learning: Independent Placement

**Course description:** The central objective of this course is to provide students with community experiences and critical reflection opportunities that examine community needs, the importance of civic engagement, and the effects of social injustice, particularly those that affect ethnic minorities and marginalized populations, in our contemporary American society. Through **100 hours of dedicated service** at a pre-approved site (including Title I K-12 schools, youth programs, health services, social services, environmental programs, government agencies, etc.) students directly serve a population in need or provide supporting activities that contribute to the greater good of our community. Classroom seminar activities provide a forum for critical thinking and analysis for a deeper understanding of cultural diversity, citizenship, and how to contribute to positive social change in our community. The course also provides 'real-world' experiences that exercise advanced academic skills and knowledge applicable to each student's program of study and career goals. Practicum. Prerequisite with a grade of "C" or higher: 45 hours earned and ENG 102.

See [http://servicelearning.asu.edu](http://servicelearning.asu.edu) for more details.
7. Description of how this course meets ASU criteria – L

USL 410 Service Learning: Independent Placement meets all general criteria for a Literacy Course.

Through experiential learning, critical reflection and research, USL 410 Service Learning: Independent Placement focuses on citizenship and cultural diversity in our contemporary American society. USL 410 students attend a weekly seminar that correlates with 100 hours of service to a population in need in our community. Students embark upon an in depth study of citizenship and the inequalities of opportunities and fair distribution of resources in our local and national communities especially amongst diverse populations. A key component of Service Learning teaching methodologies is critical reflection. Through reflective written and oral assignments student analyze in class lessons, assigned readings and their service experience. Over the course of the semester, students read 6 scholarly articles, complete 11 writing assignments including a research paper (APA Style), 2 substantial critical reflection series and prepare and present 2 speeches. High expectations are detailed in the syllabus for collegiate level writing with strong content and proper grammar and structure, and a significant amount of feedback is provided to students to develop their writing throughout the course of the semester. In this course writing and critical thinking have been fully integrated as a means of learning the course content and demonstrate curricular learning.

The Critical Reflection writing assignments are completed in a three step writing process that includes a complete a review of a prompted subject correlated to a course, compare and contrast the review with assigned scholarly articles and in class lessons and workshops, and lastly a critical analysis of the significance of the topic and the larger implications of the greater societal context of the subject.

Students complete 4 substantial assignments that meet the General Studies Literacy Designation Criteria:
1) Research Paper – worth 16% of the student’s grade
2) Critical Reflection Series – worth 16% of the student’s grade
3) Pre & Post – Service Reflection Assignments – worth 11.2% of the student’s grade
4) Oral Presentations (2 – Midterm & Final) – worth 13.9% of the student’s grade
   Total – 57.1% of the overall grade