

**COMMUNITY SERVICE POLICY STATEMENT PERTAINING  
TO STUDENT VOLUNTEERS  
THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY  
AND  
THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM  
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY  
DAYTON, OH**

Scottish born essayist, satirist, historian and man of letters, Thomas Carlyle (1795 – 1881), wrote in his Critical and Miscellaneous Essays in 1827, that “the great law of culture is: Let each become all that he was created capable of being.” Within the spirit of that context, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the multi-disciplinary Criminal Justice Program at Wright State University recognize the educational value of service learning, whereby, its students become pro-actively involved in locally sponsored community service events and/or with select human service agencies that would expose one to the cultural diversity and/or needs of the local community. In essence, consistent with the contemporary service philosophy promulgated by the Corporation for National and Community Service, sociology and criminal justice majors are encouraged to give back to the community through the community.

Such undertakings are separate from and not part of the accredited internship program; rather, they involve a volunteered commitment to community service through the student’s own volition under the possible guidance of a given faculty member.

Famed historian and auditor-magistrate at the court of Versailles in France, Charles-Henri Clérel de Tocqueville (1805 – 1859) noted in his dual work on Democracy in America (1835 and 1840), one of the major characteristics defining the American populace was its dedication to community service and community involvement. Hence, faculty can and do serve as sources of information relevant to their own professional interests and commitments pertaining to the community. Students have the opportunity to seek from the faculty and/or their assigned academic advisers, input relevant to possible service learning activities based on their own social science centered research.

Recognizing the educational value of an active service learning commitment, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Criminal Justice Program, will toward the conclusion of a given academic year, issue “Merit for Volunteered Community Service.” Awards will be based on the number of documented community service hours the student has volunteered within the given academic year. Toward the conclusion of the academic year, students are to submit on an agency’s letterhead a statement noting the number of hours the student volunteered during the university’s academic calendar year and their given activities. The letter should be sent to the department and program’s internship coordinator, prior to the conclusion of the academic year during the penultimate month.

Noting Wright State University’s traditional colors are that of green and gold, the following Gem Awards will rank the issued Merit for Volunteered Community Service.” This is an annual award.

YELLOW SAPPHIRE AWARD	= 200 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
EMERALD AWARD	= 175 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
YELLOW TOPAZ AWARD	= 150 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
PERIDOT AWARD	= 125 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE