

Reflective Discussion Questions

Pre-Experience

What does community engagement mean to you?
What personal and professional qualities are important to bring to an engaged learning experience?
How will you motivate yourself to go to a community site when you just don't feel like it?
What are any trepidations or worries you may have about engaging in the experience?
What do you hope to gain through this experience?
What are your expectations or assumptions about the client group you're serving?

Mid-Experience

What assumptions did you have about your experience that have proven to be correct? Incorrect?
How is your experience informing your own sense of civic engagement or social responsibility?
In what ways are you able to link your course content to your service experience?
What do you think is the most valuable service you can offer at your organization?
What challenges are you facing in your experience?
What was one thing you've noticed/experienced so far that you weren't expecting?
Can you describe a moment when your sense of belonging and community was strengthened during your CEL experience?

Post-Experience

What was one of the most important lessons (about yourself, our community, or the social issue you're working for) you learned while engaging in CEL?
What did you learn about the community?
What did you see in your experiences with CEL that challenged your beliefs /values/ideas?
How have you been challenged in your service experience and what steps did you take to resolve them?
If you were to communicate to your peers about your service experience, what would you say?
How do you feel you have impacted your community partner organization? The clients?
Can you share a particular story of a person or occurrence that personally impacted you?
In what ways did your service experience help you understand and apply the concepts learned in your course?
How have your perspectives on the community changed from the beginning of the CEL experience until now?
What did you do that seemed to be effective or ineffective in your engagement with others? What can you learn from this?
Is there anything you would do differently now that your CEL experiences have come to an end?
How are you different after leaving the engaged learning experience from when you entered it?
Is there any "bigger picture" thoughts you'd like to share from your experiences?

