



# Service Based Learning

## COURSE OPTION FOR VISITING STUDENTS

### ABOUT THE COURSE

The principal aim of the course is to provide Study Abroad and International Exchange students with the opportunity to make a credit-bearing contribution to the local community while developing a range of transferable and employability-related skills which will benefit them both in subsequent years of academic study on returning to their home institution and particularly their later transition into employment.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This course is open to all Study Abroad and International Exchange students, and can be taken in either the first or second term, or for the full year. There are no academic pre-requisites for this course.

**Term 1 = Autumn Term**

**Term 2 = Spring Term**

The information contained in the course outlines on the following pages is correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change as part of our policy of continuous improvement and development.

|   |  |                 |                                    |
|---|--|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>SS1001V</b>  | <b>Service Based Learning in the Community</b> | <b>1/2 unit</b> | <b>Term 1, Term 2 or Full Year</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This course is available to <b>all</b> INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE and STUDY ABROAD students. It is not available to Erasmus students.</li> </ul> |  |                 |                                    |

## SS1001V Service Based Learning in the Community

**Assessment:** Students will complete a Personal Development Log (2,000 words max) summarising the skills developed/enhanced as a result of the activity undertaken. This will be revised during their Reflective Sessions.

**Coursework:** The total number of notional learning hours associated with this course are 150.

Please note the course will only be offered as Pass/Fail.

These hours will normally be divided between the following activities:

| Type of Activity              | Hours per week                        | Number of weeks | Total Hours |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Reading and private study     | 3+                                    | 12              | 40          |
| Guided Independent Study      | Reflective log and sessions           | 12              | 50          |
| Other (please include detail) | Voluntary activity ~ 5 hours per week | 12              | 60          |

### Course Aims

The principal aim of the course is to provide Study Abroad and International Exchange students with an opportunity to make a credit-bearing contribution to the local community while developing a range of transferable and employability-related skills which will benefit them, both in subsequent years of academic study on returning to their home institution, and particularly their later transition into employment.

The course will accredit successful student participation in the wide range of voluntary activity currently recognised by the Royal Holloway Passport Scheme, developed by the Students' Union and Careers Service. This scheme recognises contributions made to the local community via the Community Action volunteering programme.

A comprehensive list of activities accredited by the Passport Scheme is revised and published at the start of each academic year by the Careers Service. Community Action will provide an introduction session at the start of the module for students to help familiarise them with the UK voluntary sector and to assist with the process of selecting and getting started with a community based voluntary activity.

On completion of the voluntary activity, students will be required to submit a piece of written work in the form of a Personal Development log, reflecting on their volunteering experiences and the personal and professional skills developed as a consequence. This will be facilitated through a reflective session organised by the Careers Service.

A list of possible Community Volunteering Projects can be found on our website here:

<https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/volunteering/projects.aspx>

### **Learning Outcomes**

1. Demonstrate an ability to identify skills, knowledge and roles required to be an effective contributor to the local community, and an awareness of how these transferable skills may be relevant in the workplace.
2. Demonstrate an ability to manage their time and learning opportunities effectively and in a manner appropriate to the voluntary sector.
3. Undertake a structured analysis of their personal and/or professional (as appropriate) achievements and development.
4. Demonstrate an ability to identify, analyse and propose solutions to problems in the context of the activity being undertaken.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the benefits and value of voluntary activity upon the local community, and an ability to analyse and summarise these in written form.
6. Demonstrate oral and written communication skills in the context of individual and group situations relevant to the voluntary sector and to provide evidence of these via submission of a self-reflective portfolio.
7. Identify and plan further skills training and personal development necessary to facilitate the individual's progression into post-university employment.

### **Reading Material**

*T. Cormak, Be The Change, Love Books, 2007.*

*C. Rochester, A.E. Paine, S. Howlett, M. Zimmeck, Volunteering and Society in the 21st Century, Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.*