

# COMMUNITY SERVICE-LEARNING



## CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE-LEARNING

### WHAT IS IT?

The Certificate in Community Engagement and Service-Learning demonstrates that a student has significantly integrated community service-learning (CSL) into his or her postsecondary education and spent 100 hours working in and learning from community organizations.

The knowledge and experience gained through CSL are applicable to a wide range of careers, including those in non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the volunteer sector, business and government, and academic institutions. Students in ALL undergraduate programs at the U of A are eligible for the Certificate, which is received upon graduation as an added credential to your degree and noted in the student transcript.

### HOW DO I APPLY?

The Certificate is available to ALL undergraduate students across the University—regardless of Faculty or program. Before the Certificate can be granted, and noted on official transcripts, students must apply through Undergraduate Student Services in the Faculty of Arts by the application deadline for convocation.

### HOW DO I GET IT?

Students must fulfill all existing requirements for an undergraduate degree in their respective disciplines. Then, there are 2 options:

#### 1) Complete a minimum of 5 courses (15 credits) as follows:

- At least one CSL-designated course (CSL 100, 200, 350, 370, or 480)
- 4 courses (12 credits) from the list of academic courses approved by the CSL Program. Students must satisfactorily meet the CSL requirements of each course

- OR -

#### 2) Complete a minimum of 4 courses (12 credits) AND one non-credit opportunity as follows:

- At least one CSL-designated course (CSL 100, 200, 350, 370, or 480)
- 3 courses (9 credits) from the list of academic courses approved by the CSL Program. Students must satisfactorily meet the CSL requirements of each course
- Successful completion of one non-credit opportunity.

## DEFINITIONS

**CSL-DESIGNATED COURSES:** A CSL-designated course introduces and develops your understanding of CSL theory and practice while you complete more in-depth community projects. These vary each year but generally include: CSL 100, CSL 200, CSL 370, CSL 350. Please visit the CSL website ([uab.ca/CSL](http://uab.ca/CSL)) or Beartracks for a list of current CSL-designated courses.

**CSL-APPROVED COURSES:** There are a variety of academic courses which have a community service-learning component embedded into them. Please visit the [CSL website 'Courses' page](#) for a list of available courses.

A CSL-approved course generally meets the following criteria:

- It involves a minimum of 20 hours of community-engaged activity with a non-profit organization
- The activity is integrated into the content of the course via assignments, projects, etc.

If you're not sure if a course you have taken counts as a CSL-approved course, please email: [cslinfo@ualberta.ca](mailto:cslinfo@ualberta.ca)

**NON-CREDIT OPPORTUNITY:** A self-initiated volunteer opportunity with a non-profit organization. Students can seek out their own opportunity based on their interests and experiences or select from list of starting points listed on the CSL website.

To be eligible, a non-credit opportunity must meet the following criteria:

- involve a minimum 30 hours of community-engaged activity;
- include a minimum 15 hours reflective learning component (e.g., a reflective paper or action plan; or an extensive training and mentorship component).

CSL offers a variety of non-credit opportunities that can be undertaken to fulfill this requirement (e.g., the Non-Profit Board Student Internship). Students can also use a previous volunteer experience to fulfill this requirement.

To have an opportunity approved, please apply through our website. Students may apply to have a non-credit opportunity approved at any stage in their programs; however, approval must be granted prior to the application deadline for convocation.

### HOW DO I APPLY?

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# CSL CERTIFI-KIT CHECKLIST



<b>NAME + STUDENT ID</b>	
<b>DEGREE PROGRAM</b>	

COMPLETED?	REQUIREMENT
	Apply for CSL Certificate with Undergraduate Student Services in the Faculty of Arts (at beginning of program or as soon as possible).
	Successful completion of at least <b>one CSL-designated Course</b> (e.g. CSL 100, 200, 350, 370 or 480)  1. Course Completed: CSL _____
	<b>Four academic courses with a CSL component embedded (can include additional CSL-designated courses):</b>  2. Course name and number _____, placement at _____ 3. Course name and number _____, placement at _____ 4. Course name and number _____, placement at _____ 5.* Course name and number _____, placement at _____
	<b>*OR A Non-Credit Opportunity</b> instead of a 5th course:  Placement completed at (organization) _____
	Meet all program requirements for your respective degree (the certificate is only granted at the time of graduation from a University of Alberta degree program).  DEADLINES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• February 1st for SPRING Convocation</li> <li>• September 1st for FALL Convocation</li> </ul>