

Service Learning Conference
"Current Status and Future Prospects of Service Learning"
Bethlehem, Palestine, May, 2023

Workshop

Service Learning for Human Rights and Democracy

Content:

THE PALESTINIAN CONTEXT AS A WHOLE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES. AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES IN GENERAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEMOCRACY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW COURSE, STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS ARE ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES IN ORDER TO MAKE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY TO COME ALIVE AND TO EXPERIENCE REAL CONNECTION BETWEEN WHAT WE ARE TO GIVE IN THE COURSE AND EVERYDAY ISSUE IN THE PALESTINIAN CONTEXTS WHICH HAS MANY CHALLENGES DUE TO LOSS OF SOVEREIGNTY OF THE STATE AND THE DIFFICULTY OF MOVEMENT AND OTHER ISSUES RELATED TO DEMOCRACY HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICABILITY IN THE ABSENCE OF A STATE.

THE WORKSHOP FOCUSES ON THE FOLLOWING

- A focus on efficiently and effectively addressing needs with the Palestinian community, and not just for the community.
- Instead of passively learning students are involved in service learning and in creating knowledge. There is active student involvement in the project from identification of the needs of the community to reflection to development of action plan.
- The classmates get more practice working with each other in groups and connecting with the community.
- Students learn how to move beyond stereotypes, preconceived ideas, misinformation and biases to understand real people and real issues.
- How can be more solution centered,
- Modifies common perceptions of student, allowing them to be active agents of change in their communities and for the future of Palestine.
- How can they examine community norms and social structures in comparison to values of democracy and human rights teaching and scholarly literature and compare.
- Fosters civic engagement by allowing for the design and implementation of projects that bring about real transformative change.
- Promotes inclusivity and diversity by encouraging everyone's participation, which is a challenge in Palestine. To this end in this course, we try to promote citizenship.

- Promote solidarity with the community in the recognition of the other as an equal, as a subject entitled to inalienable rights.

Reflection Questions

How are we promoting these objectives and how can we further promote these objectives throughout our courses

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