17.903
COMMUNITY SERVICE:
Experience and Reflection
Fall 2001

Tuesdays 3:00 – 4:30 in 38-166

If you've always wanted to work as a volunteer in the Boston/Cambridge area but didn't know where to begin TAKE THIS CLASS. In this seminar, students combine experiential learning with reading, writing and reflection on urban politics and policy. Work as a volunteer in a community service agency or an advocacy group and receive MIT credit. Tutor kids, teens or adults; cook dinner for guests in a shelter; help design community programs for youth; conduct research on nutrition, hunger and homelessness policies; volunteer with the elderly; record books for the blind; teach a dance or art class; or do something about race relations, poverty, human rights issues, or the environment. Tell us what you want to do, and we'll do our best to find a placement for you.

We'll meet seven times for 1 1/2 hours during the semester to discuss your placement, politics, policy, and other issues. We examine contemporary urban issues including race, diversity, education reform, and/or health care policy. Each semester the topics and the readings are different. Last semester, we concentrated on urban economic issues, domestic partnership laws, the upcoming national presidential election, and welfare policy. The students in the class choose the central issues on which we focus at the orientation session.

Class sessions:
September 11  November 13
September 25  December 4
October 16  December 11
October 30

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PLEASE SEE THE SYLLABUS FOR REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.