**Service Learning Final Research Paper**

Outline of Required Sections

Length: Sections I. through IX. should be a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 double-spaced pages with 1 inch margins on all sides. Please use a traditional (i.e. boring) font such as Times, Garamond, or Caslon. Do not use Comic Sans.

1. TOPIC AND ISSUE DESCRIPTION
   1. What is the issue or problem? Describe the type of issue, the specific major issue, and sub-issues.
   2. Analyze the issue using peer-reviewed academic research.
      1. What is the history or background, the facts?
      2. What are the effects or consequences of this issue (negative and positive)?
      3. What groups, organizations, social institutions are involved?
      4. What stand and political or economic ideologies are taken by whom?
2. CAUSES OF THE ISSUE
   1. What sociological and economic development perspectives are involved and which parties use which perspective?
   2. What social and economic factors (causes) are involved? (Who says so? Describe the research.)
3. SOLUTIONS (POTENTIAL AND TRIED)
   1. What solution(s) are proposed and by whom (groups, ideologies, perspectives)? Which causes are addressed in these solutions? Which are not?
   2. What theoretical approach(es) do these solutions take?
   3. What solution(s) have been tried already? What solutions work? What solutions do the research support?
   4. What additional issues do the solutions raise? What are some potential unintended consequences?
4. YOUR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE AND THE AGENCY'S APPROACH
   1. What solution(s) does the agency with which you volunteered use?
   2. What are the effects of this agency's approach? What works? What doesn't?
   3. From your observations, do the solution(s) used by this agency and the results of their solutions align with the sociological research? In what ways to they align? In what ways do they differ?
   4. How do the solutions used by the second agency that you interviewed compare? In what ways do they align with the research? In what ways do they differ?
   5. *If your agency is a major national or international organization*: What does the research say about your agency? Which methods and techniques does the literature critique and why? Which does the literature describe as successful and why?
5. SUMMARIZE AND TAKE A PERSONAL POSITION
   1. What conclusion(s) can you draw about the problem? What are your own reactions now that you've analyzed it? What do you think would be the best solution? Why? Be sure to back up your conclusions with relevant research and data to support your view.
6. REFERENCES