

ACTION EXAMPLE

At a high school in Humble Texas, seniors participate in a comprehensive, year-long project that meets all the criteria for high quality service. After participating in service-learning projects through 9th, 10th, and 11th grades, 12th grade students enroll in a Senior Seminar, a capstone service-learning course. During the fall semester, students identify and conduct research on a global social issue about which they feel passionate concern. During the second semester, they work in teams to develop and implement action plans that address the global issue. Action plans must build awareness of the issue, include research, address a community need, and be sustainable after the end of the school year. Specific requirements within the Senior Seminar include:

- A formal research paper;
- Frequent advisory meetings;
- Regular group meetings;
- Three oral presentations, including a subtopic speech, social action speech, and a self-portrait (see below);
- Reflection assignments including a social action directory, project selection sheet specifying service-learning objectives mastered or practiced, project design sheet, and project evaluation sheet;
- A journal with at least one entry per week;
- A log of hours spend on designing, planning, implementing, and evaluating the project;
- Analysis of group dynamics as they related to workplace tools;
- A self-portrait completed in a format of the students' choice, including video, poetry, sculpture, painting, or another medium; and
- A portfolio including all of the research project components: academic samples from each discipline, the self-portrait, a wellness plan, career shadowing reflection, and a social action plan.

At the end of the year, students must give a formal presentation using multimedia in which they highlight their individual research and the project itself. *Humble, TX*

(from RMC Research Corporation. K-12 Service-Learning Project Planning Toolkit. Scotts Valley, CA: National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, 2006.

http://www.servicelearning.org/filemanager/download/K-12_Service-Learning_Project_Planning_Toolkit.pdf