



Center for Community Engaged Learning

Center for Community Engaged Learning

In partnership with campus and community, the Center advances community-engaged learning (CEL) at Michigan State University and prepares students for lifelong civic and social responsibility in an increasingly diverse and complex global society.

Students may participate in CEL opportunities that are course- or curriculum-connected or in volunteer/service opportunities beyond the classroom.

What is Community-Engaged Learning?

Community-engaged learning (CEL) combines academic coursework with the application of institutional resources to address challenges facing communities through:

- Engagement that addresses societal needs identified by a community.
- Intentional integration of learning objectives co-created with community partner(s).
- Student preparation and ongoing critical reflection.
- Clearly articulated benefits for students, community, and campus partners.
- Opportunities to critically examine social issues and situate self within a community setting.

Students

The Center links students to curricular community-engaged learning (CEL) and opportunities beyond the classroom. It also cultivates and maintains relationships with community partners to connect community needs with student interests.

Services and programs offered to students may include:

- CEL workshops and resources to help students gain a better understanding of how to become an engaged citizen.
- College and CEL support (Service-Learning Honors Option, Social Innovation Track for Entrepreneurship).
- America Reads/America Counts community work-study programs.
- Community Engagement Scholars Program.
- Alternative Break programs, Days of Service programs, and support for community service-focused registered student organizations (RSOs).
- Pre-professional CEL opportunities (hospital positions).

Faculty and Staff

Academic community-engaged learning (CEL) combines coursework, community engagement, and reflection to develop students' academic skills, sense of civic responsibility, and commitment to the community. Students enhance their classroom learning while developing personal, professional, and leadership skills.

The Center assists university faculty and academic staff across all colleges and majors to create CEL opportunities:

- Course development consulting, toolkits, and resources
- Service opportunity registration system
- Campus and community networking and partnership facilitation
- CEL orientations
- Logistical support (e.g., transportation assistance, background checks)
- Reflection workshops and resources



Spartan Point of Pride

MSU's Center for Community Engaged Learning celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2018. It is the oldest continuously operating center of its type in the United States.



Community Partners

Community partners play a key role as co-educators in community-engaged learning. The Center has a long history of cultivating and facilitating sustained, reciprocal relationships with partners through engagement, convening, workshops, and dialogue.

The Center elevates and highlights these partnerships in the biennial Community Engaged Learning Index available for download from the Center for Community Engaged Learning website.

find more information at:
communityengagedlearning.msu.edu

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Center for Community
Engaged Learning

Center for Community Engaged Learning
556 East Circle Drive, Suite 346
Student Services Building
East Lansing, MI 48824-1113

Phone: (517) 353-4400

Renee Brown

*Director, Center for Community Engaged
Learning*

rcbrown@msu.edu