



Put the CBL
designation on
your course!
Community-Based-Learning



What is the CBL designation?

The CBL designation on courses stands for Community-Based Learning and simply indicates that the course involves a community-based learning teaching strategy, such as service-learning or community-based research. Any existing course at WSU can apply for this designation. The community-based learning experience in the course can be required or optional for students. Finally, individual sections of courses can receive the CBL designation for individual instructors, or all sections of a course can receive the CBL designation if all sections, regardless of instructor, offer a community-based learning experience to students.

Why should I apply for a CBL

It announces to students, at the time of registration, that your course involves a service-learning or community-based research project.

It registers your course with the CIC which in turn provides support to you and your students by:

- Maintaining a Service Opportunity Directory (list of over 100 community partners) for faculty and students.
- Providing assistance finding and developing community partnerships appropriate for particular courses with specific learning objectives.
- Recording and tracking completed service hours.
- Communicating completed service hours to instructors at three separate times during the semester: at the end of 5, 10 and 15 weeks.
- Providing 24/7 access to the CIC Service Hours Tracking System for students to monitor their completed service hours (accessible from any location via the CIC home page).
- Providing documentation of service for students, upon request, for potential employers and/or graduate programs.
- Providing documentation of faculty involvement in CBL, upon request, for promotion and tenure files.
- Surveying students in CBL courses at the end of each semester and shares the results with faculty.

It is a designation that formally recognizes innovative teaching, which can be noted on your promotion and tenure documents.

It gives you the opportunity to actively participate in building a campus culture that celebrates community-based learning, both in and out of the classroom.

You become an active participant in upholding the mission and strategic plan of WSU.

Service-Learning: What is it?

“...a teaching and learning approach that integrates community service with academic study to enrich learning, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities”

-National Commission

How do I apply for a CBL designation?

Use the online form at

http://www.weber.edu/CommunityInvolvement/supplemental_pages/cbl_form.html

to submit your application. A course syllabus and a signature page to verify your course as an existing WSU course need to accompany your application. All application information and forms are available at the above listed link.

When are applications due?

Application deadlines for courses taught in:

Spring semester	September 20th
Summer semester	January 15th
Fall semester	February 15th

What are the criteria for the CBL designation?

The CIC's CBL Curriculum Committee created the following criteria for determining CBL designated classes. These criteria are consistent with similar designations across the nation. Your course will receive a CBL designation if it does the following:

Criteria #1 Students in the class provide needed service/research to individuals, organizations, schools, or other entities in the community wherein the service, the findings of the research or the process itself might lead to social change.

Criteria #2 The service/research experience relates to the subject matter of the course.

Criteria #3 Activities in the class provide a method or methods for students to think about what they learned through the service/research experience and how this learning relates to the subject of the class.

Criteria #4 The course offers a method to assess the learning derived from the service/research. Credit is given for the learning and its relation to the course, not for the service/research alone.

Criteria #5 Service/research interactions in the community recognize the needs of service/research recipients, and offer an opportunity for recipients, students and faculty members to be involved in the planning and evaluation of the service/research as equal partners.

Criteria #6 Knowledge from the discipline and the community informs the service/research experiences in which the students are involved.

Criteria #7 The service/research opportunities are aimed at the development of the civic education of students even though they may also be focused on career preparation.

Criteria #8 The class offers a way to learn from other class members as well as from the instructor.

Criteria #9 Course options ensure that no student is required to participate in service/research which creates a religious, political and/or moral conflict for the student.

Criteria #10 Community-Based Research only – The course requires students to disseminate the findings of the research to community partners and/or other relevant audiences.

Community-Based Research: What is it?

“Community-Based Research (CBR) is a partnership of students, faculty and community members who collaboratively engage in research with the purpose of solving a pressing community problem or effecting social change.”

-Strand, et al, 2003

How will students know what courses have the CBL designation?

Two ways:

1 - Online Class schedule – once your course receives the CBL designation, it will be listed in the online class schedule with Community-Based Learning next to the title of your class.

2 - List of classes on the CIC website – Each semester, the CIC will also provide a list of CBL designated classes on our website. Students and faculty alike will be able to see the full list of CBL classes offered in any given semester at WSU.

Who reviews the CBL application?

The CIC's CBL Curriculum Committee, consisting of experienced community-based learning faculty at WSU, will review each application. The course instructor, department chair and secretary will be notified by the CIC's CBL Curriculum Committee chair after the committee completes its review of applications.

