The Office of Service-Learning

Benefits of Global Service

The primary goal of global service-learning programs is to cultivate globally-minded citizens, with numerous academic, personal, and professional benefits. These programs are:

**Academic:** You will enroll in actual MU courses with an academic curriculum that includes preparation for entry into the host country, reflection, and self-discovery.

**Experiential:** Your learning comes from hands-on, active participation in the activities of a local community, similar to the real-world experiences of a traditional internship program.

**Immersive:** You have the opportunity to work side-by-side with local community members, offering the opportunity for structured and informal learning about the host culture and society.

**Interdisciplinary:** There are global service programs for all academic majors and minors, allowing you to draw on your academic background as you collaborate to explore complex social problems and develop innovative solutions within the context of the host community.

**Professional:** Global service programs allow you to cultivate skills, attitudes, and perspectives that will improve your marketability in your future job search. Adding a global service experience to your resume provides both an international and volunteering/internship experiences, two activities that employers seek in recent graduates.

**Reflective:** During your time abroad, you will keep a journal documenting your service and community engagement. In addition, you will attend reflection sessions to discuss the challenges you face and the successes you achieve in your service placement. You will explore “real world” issues while learning more about yourself.

For more information email servicelearning@missouri.edu or visit our website at servicelearning.missouri.edu/global

The MU Office of Service-Learning Global Internship and Service programs offer you the opportunity to:

- **Engage** with local communities abroad in meaningful ways
- **Use** what you learn in the classroom to make meaningful contributions to communities abroad
- **Meet** genuine needs in your host country

Global Service Programs combine academic studies, community engagement, and immersion in another culture to give students deep, meaningful international experiences. Through partnerships with local community organizations and schools, students engage with members of their host country through sustained service activities, benefiting the local communities and fulfilling critical human and environmental needs.

These programs are interdisciplinary in nature, allowing students from a variety of academic majors to participate. Service involves a variety of activities that contribute to the well-being of individuals, communities, and nations where the MU students serve.

Experience the charm of an exotic country full of exotic temples, lush tropical jungles, beautiful beaches, ancient cities, and unique cuisine while engaging in international service in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

**Program Dates:** June 4 - July 16, 2016

**Office of Service-Learning**
Students will reside together in a guest-house in the center of Chiang Mai. Meals provided are: breakfast daily, two group dinners a week, and meals on excursion days.

**SRV_LRN 3028 or 3028H: Thailand: Orientation and Cultural Studies (3 credits).**
Six-week prerequisite orientation.

**SRV_LRN 3028 or 3028H: Global Service in Thailand (3 credits).**

The main objective of this course is to promote service-learning through direct contact, classes, discussions, reflections, and projects while living in Thailand. Academic coursework will emphasize the development of critical consciousness while engaging in reflection and group dialogue.

While in Chiang Mai, Thailand students will have the opportunity to engage daily in direct service at individual projects (in small groups) with local organizations in addition to several large group projects. The program is designed to immerse students in Thai culture and the issues faced by Thai citizens and resident minority groups. Working alongside local NGOs and local non-profit organizations, you have the opportunity to experience the operational activities and structure of effective development projects in fields listed below, and enable individuals to contribute actively to real initiatives make a real difference. Students may choose projects from one of the focus areas listed below:

- Teaching English
- NGO/Non-profit business development and administration
- Health education
- Child and human trafficking issues

Activities listed are sample options - final projects will vary based on the needs of the community identified before the group arrives in Thailand.

### Tentative Calendar

**SAT JUNE 4**
Arrive in Chiang Mai, Thailand

**SUN-MON MAY 5-6**
Orientation in service sites and city tour

**TUES-FRI MAY 7-10**
Service at sites begins

**EVERY week Mon-Fri**
Service at sites

**Excursions/Activities:**
- **JUNE 11** Thai cooking class
- **JUNE 12** Hilltribe Trek
- **JUNE 18-19** Chiang Rai/Mae Sai
- **JUNE 25-26** Free weekend
- **JULY 2-3** Free weekend
- **JULY 9-10** Free weekend

**SAT JULY 16**
Departure from Chiang Mai

### Housing information

Students will reside together in a guest-house in the center of Chiang Mai. Meals provided are: breakfast daily, two group dinners a week, and meals on excursion days.

### Excursions

The program incorporates visits to several important historic and cultural attractions in Thailand.