

Service Learning Courses at IUPUI: What's In It For Students?

IUPUI students participate in service learning courses significantly more than students in other urban colleges and universities. So, what really are the benefits of taking a service learning course?



IUPUI has become increasingly well-known for offering service learning courses, as evidenced by its listing in the *US News & World Report Best Colleges* annually since 2002. Based on several surveys of students across campus, we know that IUPUI students participate in service learning courses significantly more than students in other urban colleges and universities. In addition, surveys demonstrate the benefits of service learning courses in terms of:

Learning:

- 82% of students in the service learning courses felt the course helped them listen to others and understand their perspectives on social issues.
- 79% feel they can apply what they learned in the service learning class to solve real problems in society.
- Over three-quarters (76%) reported that the class caused them to feel more concerned about social problems.

Motivation:

- 61% of students in the service learning courses indicated the nature of the class motivated them to be the best student they could be.
- 41% of students reported they attended the service learning course more consistently than normal.
- More than half (52%) participate in service learning class discussions more frequently than in other classes.

Degree and Career Goals:

- More than two-thirds (68%) reported that the service learning course had a positive impact on their plans to complete a college degree.
- 61% indicated that the service learning course gave them a clearer idea of their professional goals.
- Almost half (49%) reported that the course helped with decision-making about a major or career.

Find out more about these results [HERE!](#)