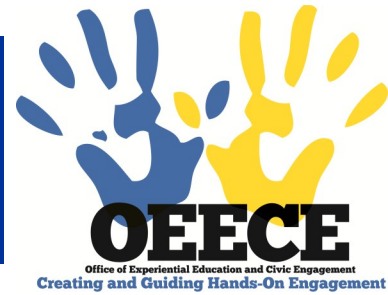


# Tips on Student Reflection of Experiential Learning



Student reflection involves a deliberate process for assessing student academic learning. When creating reflection activities, consider the outcomes you hope to see and how these outcomes relate to the course objectives, assignments, and service activity.

## What is the significance of conducting reflection?

- To link service experiences to learning objectives and knowledge of the course
- To assess the relevance of the service experience on student academic development
- To evaluate the impact of service activity on the community
- To facilitate communication, critical thinking, and problem solving skills
- To serve as an example of institutional–community collaborations

## What are the recommendations for conducting reflection?

Given the many uses of reflective activities, Eyler, Giles, and Schmiede (1996) recommend four “C’s” to guide implementation of reflections:

- *Continuous:* Ongoing; occurs before, during, and after the service experience
- *Contextualized:* Correspond the activities with course content to help create linkages between knowledge acquisition and application
- *Challenging:* Raise new questions, poses old questions in new ways, and reveal new perspectives
- *Connected:* combine experiential learning with course content to facilitate knowledge and skill development

## Reflective activities may include:

Journals	Presentations	Portfolios/notebooks
Group discussion	Blogs	Creative outlets (writing, drama, etc.)
Reflective essays	Videos	Connections/responses to course readings
Surveys	Letters	Online chat sessions
Podcasts	Creative writing	Electronic forum

For more information or for resources, contact the Office of Experiential Education and Civic Engagement (OEECE) 203 Moulton Hall, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242. 330-672-7876 or at [experiential@kent.edu](mailto:experiential@kent.edu).

Adapted from: The Service-Learning Initiative at The Ohio State University; Center for Service and Learning; Southeastern Louisiana University Center for Faculty Excellence