Service-learning

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Service-learning is a method of learning that based on servicing people. It is that people can learn from doing the service, is the education in action. The service learning is not like other learning programs, not a visit or tour, nor did something learn at the school. The most important part is doing the service. People can learn a lot thing from doing the service. Unlike extra-curricular activities in the form of volunteer service, service-learning and academic programs closely. Community service and academic programs will combine focus on reflection and civic responsibility. Service-learning and experiential learning, are student activities organized via participating organizations to meet the comprehensive needs of the community. It provides students with the opportunity to care for others; the students will be extended to the community. First, it emphasizes both course and service practice. Service-learning must be combined with the curriculum, with course arrangements. Students will learn in the course on the knowledge and skills, the use of the service in practice; second is to emphasize structured reflection. Reflection is an important component of service-learning. Pre-service teachers, service and service arrangements reflect on activities to help students to integrate their course of study and experience, to learning. Third, encourage students to practice in the service of the community, develop social responsibility.

However, service-learning and the school curriculum, or the combination of a fairly new concept, only from the seventies began to appear. In the late 80s many of the national meeting, the United States federal legislation began to support local advocacy initiatives. After the recent years the promotion of service learning in schools and universities in the United States generally carried out together. In 1999, almost half of high school have carried out service-learning. 2000-2001, over 1.3 million U.S. students were involved in the assessment of service activities.

1967 educators Robert Simon and William Ramsay coined "service-learning" as the word, that is, combined with awareness education complete the task of learning and teaching and learning in order to meet the real needs of people in society. 1971 National Student Leadership National School Volunteer Program to help schools provide students with a variety of service-learning opportunities. In 1981 The National Youth Service Learning Center became the nation's educators and policy makers to provide training, resources, and heavily involved in the entire country in early high school service learning activity data and databases. In 1990 the Federal Council was established to provide funds to encourage states, schools and community institutions to implement and develop service-learning. In 1992, Maryland became the first provides that "participation in service-learning activities" a condition of graduation for high school students the gun. In 1993 "National and Community Service Trust Act Public" for the state to service learning into the school curriculum to provide funding and protection. In 1994, California State University Monterey Bay will become the first service-learning as a necessary condition for graduation comprehensive university. The WK Kellogg Foundation in 1998 launched the "learning from practice", to 4 years, throughout the country to advocate for service learning into school curricula. In 2001, 1000 people from more than 50 member states of the "National Service Learning Partnership", committed to expand and consolidate the development of service-learning.

However, service learning is only used as for extra-curricular activities. Until 2000, social services, the school curriculum to be used as the basic learning experience one of the five, was able to change this situation. Hong Kong Baptist University in 2002 in "holistic learning center" set up under the "community-based teaching programs." The program implementation of the "service learning" and "problem-based learning" are two kinds of activities have been implemented in 2006 to more than 80 programs of activities involved in a wide range of academic departments.

December 2002, Lingnan University set up a "service-learning program for their students”. Under this scheme, there is a "South Angel" student group, after school, children of ethnic minorities for the District to provide own volunteer services. Service-learning programs more Lingnan Student Services Centre and to promote the implementation of many projects, including: X program, volunteer services Lingnan school love plans to investigate internship program. In 2004, Lingnan University will service learning into school curricula. United International College adhering to the holistic education of Hong Kong Baptist University, the school spirit and tradition of the world's College of Humanities, developed four-dimensional students, teachers, parents and the community four interactive modes of teaching and learning, requires all students to be in the second year of university a "service-learning", to establish the relationship between students and the community, emphasis on students in the learning process of reflection and teaching process through careful planning and systematic evaluation to ensure that "service learning" teaching quality.

For my personal experience, Service-learning has a lot of benefits. First, helps people remember what they learned from class. For example: I use the computer everyday as if it as even it is a part of my life. I still don’t know how to zoom in the display words, but when I do the service of teaching the elderly people at the community center I have to know it. So I learned how to do those technical questions. The second one is communication. And also I have to do communications with them to let them understand how to use computer. It is a little hard for an ESL student to explain those computer words to the elderly people especially when they couldn’t speak very clearly. So I have to repeat those words to them times by times and teaching them step by steps. For doing this I understand the elderly people a lot, I thought they are ignore when I at home before I did it. But now I understand them and I can commute with my elderly families well. So I suggest that every student should do a service learning, you will not only learn the knowledge itself but also learn something you don’t know without doing it.

The information about service learning history in U.S. and HONGKONG is from [www.beidu.com](http://www.beidu.com) by searching 服务学习.