

CEL - Course Preparation Resources

Engaged Humanities & CCES

www.plu.edu/engagedhumanities

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How do you view community?

- [Appreciative Inquiry](#)
“At its heart, AI is about the search for the best in people, their organizations, and the strengths-filled, opportunity-rich world around them. AI is not so much a shift in the methods and models of organizational change, but AI is a fundamental shift in the overall perspective taken throughout the entire change process to ‘see’ the wholeness of the human system and to “inquire” into that system’s strengths, possibilities, and successes.” Stavros, Jacqueline, Godwin, Lindsey, & Cooperrider, David. (2015).
- [Asset Based Community Development \(ABCD\)](#)
ABCD insists on beginning with a clear commitment to discovering a community's capacities and assets rather than the deficits and needs that are frequently the center of efforts for positive change. Each community boasts a unique combination of assets upon which to build its future. A thorough map of those assets would begin with an inventory of the gifts, skills and capacities of the community's residents.
- [Community Organizing vs. Community Development](#)
Community service provides help for a community, primarily from the outside.
Community development seeks to build social, economic and political infrastructures for a healthy community to sustain itself.
Community organizing seeks collaboration among all players in a community to marshal existing resources and to find links to all outside agencies and resources in able to make itself an equal player with all other communities.

Critical Service Learning and Power Dynamics

- [Service Learning as a Pedagogy of Whiteness](#) Tania D. Mitchell, PhD
“Service learning is being implemented mostly by white faculty with mostly white students at predominantly white institutions to serve mostly poor individuals and mostly people of color...Service learning educators who want to interrupt the patterns and privileges of whiteness must be able to recognize whiteness and question its construction, its invisibility, the normative privilege it conveys, and color-blind approaches to diversity and social justice.”
- [Traditional vs. Critical Service Learning](#) Tania D. Mitchell, PhD
Moving beyond the problematic paternalism of traditional service and service-learning, a “critical” approach to community service learning has an explicit social justice aim. A social change orientation, working to redistribute power, and developing authentic relationships are the points of departure from traditional service-learning.
- [Justice-Learning: Service learning as justice-oriented education](#) Dan W. Butin
Proposal for a distinctive form of community-based learning with a justice-oriented framework that makes possible the questioning and disruption of unexamined and all too often oppressive binaries of how we view the struggle toward equity in education.

If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time.

But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.

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How do you view your role in community building?

- [Helping Fixing Serving](#) by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D.
“Helping, fixing and serving represent three different ways of seeing life. When you help, you see life as weak. When you fix, you see life as broken. When you serve, you see life as whole.”
- [White Savior Industrial Complex](#) by Teju Cole
“The White Savior Industrial Complex is not about justice. It is about having a big emotional experience that validates privilege.”
- [Hallelujah the saviors are here](#) Louder than a Bomb - Poetry by Rachel Smith
A condemnation of teachers who come to "the inner city" without becoming a true member of the community.
- [Danger of the Single Story](#) TedTalk - by Chimamanda Adichie
Our lives, our cultures, are composed of many overlapping stories. Novelist Adiche tells the story of how she found her authentic cultural voice -- and warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding.
- [To Hell with Good Intentions](#) by Ivan Illich
An address by Monsignor Illich to the Conference on InterAmerican Student Projects (CIASP) in Cuernavaca, Mexico, on April 20, 1968. Illich goes to the heart of the deep dangers of paternalism inherent in any voluntary service activity, but especially in any international service "mission."
- [Shut up and Listen](#) TedTalk - by Ernesto Sirolli
When most well-intentioned aid workers hear of a problem they think they can fix, they go to work. Sirolli proposes that the first step is to listen to the people you're trying to help, and tap into their own entrepreneurial spirit.

Prepositions of Engagement:

To	Fix	Paternalism	You are broken
For	Help	Maternalism	You are weak
With	Serve/Engage	Community Building	We are all incomplete

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