Office of Student Activities Learning Outcomes

Overarching Outcomes

Students will:
- Develop critical and reflective thinking abilities
- Exhibit responsible decision-making and personal accountability
- Appreciate creative expression and aesthetics
- Exhibit the ability to work effectively with those different from themselves
- Demonstrate a commitment to social justice
- Demonstrate an understanding of group dynamics and effective teamwork
- Develop a range of leadership skills and abilities such as effectively leading change, resolving conflict, and motivating others

Leadership Development

Students will:
- Gain knowledge and understanding of leadership foundational theories and models.
  - Recognize a variety of leadership theories.
  - Demonstrate the ability to use theories in the practice of leadership.
- Cultivate a sense of self-awareness through indentifying a leadership vision, mission, style and values.
  - Identify their personal values.
  - Understand how to lead with integrity.
  - Demonstrate a practice of ethical leadership.
  - Recognize that leadership is a lifelong learning process.
- Exhibit knowledge and awareness of diversity around identities, cultures, and society.
  - Expand on knowledge of human differences.
  - Develop an appreciation and sensitivity to human differences.
  - How to lead with an understanding of human difference.
- Demonstrate communication skills and the ability to interrelate with others.
  - Demonstrate an understanding of group dynamics and effective teamwork.
  - Illustrate effective verbal and written communication skills.
  - Distinguish ways to adjust one’s leadership style appropriate to the situation.
  - Display the critical thinking skills and abilities to lead others toward common goals.
- Enhance awareness and commitment towards effective citizenship and social responsibility.
  - Construct an awareness of the meaning of social justice.
  - Develop a commitment to service.
  - Understand the importance of taking responsibility for their actions.

Service Programs

Students who participate in service programs will:
- Gain knowledge and understanding of service and of opportunities to engage in service
  - Identify opportunities to serve and to lead service
  - Develop awareness of current human and community needs
  - Gain understanding of related social, political, and environmental issues
  - Comprehend the meaning of service and the methods of service leadership
- Develop the ability to interrelate and establish meaningful relationships with others
  - Develop interpersonal skills including communication and cooperation
  - Build meaningful relationships with peers, leaders, and community members
  - Show empathy for others especially those different from oneself
  - Develop the ability to perform and lead service in group settings
• Demonstrate the ability to make meaning of service experiences
  o Exhibit self-awareness and self-authorship through service
  o Show the ability to think critically about the root causes of issues related to community needs
  o Demonstrate the ability to think reflectively and to convey thoughts and feelings
  o Demonstrate the ability to effectively facilitate reflection and discussion among peers

• Construct a personal definition of social justice through exposure to social injustices
  o Recognize human differences and instances of social inequity
  o Form a working definition of social justice
  o Gain understanding of various ways to contribute to social change
  o Develop the ability to effectively guide intergroup dialogue

• Assume a sense of social and civic responsibility through involvement in the community
  o Acknowledge the impact of one’s decisions and actions upon others
  o Recognize the interconnectedness of people and society
  o Apply new knowledge and skills to future service and service leadership
  o Demonstrate a commitment to the education and engagement of others

Student Organization Support

Students who are involved with student organizations will:
• Gain knowledge and understanding of student organization resources, policies, and involvement opportunities.
  o Identify and actively participate in organizational development programs
  o Be knowledgeable of Policies and Rules for Recognized Student Organizations
  o Identify organizations of personal interest

• Utilize internal practices that support organizational sustainability.
  o Create and maintain an effective leadership transition program
  o Understand and practice efficient communication skills with organization membership
  o Develop strategies to recruit, retain, and continually motivate contributing members to the organization

• Develop collaborative relationships with student organizations, University departments, and community partners.
  o Engage with other entities to participate in meaningful, mutually beneficial co-sponsorships
  o Recognize opportunities to share resources and ideas
  o Model the organization mission well when serving as an organization representative

• Build a foundation towards a continued relationship with Penn State.
  o Demonstrate active community involvement
  o Positively impact peer students’ experiences
  o Develop a commitment to uphold the Penn State principles and organizational values

Center for Arts and Crafts

Students participating in art classes and instructors who teach art classes through the Center for Arts & Crafts will:
• Develop and expand knowledge of art and opportunities to engage with art through:
  o applied creative experiences
  o gaining appreciation of art through processes and art history
  o exhibitions and preparation of artwork

• Demonstrate understanding of and ability to effectively practice art techniques and art education by:
  o learning technical skills
  o gaining leadership, teaching and facilitation skills
  o developing critical thinking and problem solving skills

• Demonstrate and exhibit communication skills and the ability to interrelate with others through:
O sharing creative thoughts and ideas with others
O preparing lesson plans and articulating art instructions to students
O administering art critiques and facilitating feedback
O practicing effective customer service

- Establish an intrapersonal perspective and expression of art through:
  O developing creative self-expression
  O gaining self-confidence in artistic abilities
  O identifying own artistic point of view
  O exhibition of art work

SPA Student Leaders

SPA members will show an understanding of their leadership ability and the way they can most effectively work within a group by:
- Communicating effectively in a range of group sizes and across multiple media types
- Demonstrating the ability to motivate self and others and gain student support
- Exhibiting an understanding of and respect for human difference
- Establishing and maintaining trust in others to complete projects and tasks

SPA members will be able to identify policies, practices, and resources relevant to planning and implementing programs, including:
- Establishing relationships with vendors and agents to obtain artist availability, pricing and technical needs
- Developing a thorough understanding of and adherence to Penn State policies and procedures
- Knowing where to obtain and how to utilize information and resources available to them

SPA members will exhibit responsible and adaptive decision making that benefits the organization and Penn State-University Park students, such as:
- Analyzing decisions by considering multiple points of view and a variety of outcomes
- Practicing critical and reflective thinking abilities
- Implementing creative programming that represents the diverse needs of Penn State-University Park students

Marketing

Students should
- Show an understanding of the best ways to inform the student body of events utilizing appropriate campus resources and advertising mediums.
- Be able to think creatively in order to reach the student body in unique ways.
- Exhibit the ability to independently produce and execute an effective and efficient marketing campaign.