Service learning is a form of experiential education in which students engage in activities that address human and community needs together with structural opportunities intentionally designed to promote student learning and development. - Jacoby et al. 1996

...the call of service was a call toward others--heart, mind, and soul--but also a call inward, a call to oneself. - Coles, 1993

Community service should be viewed as an important tool for learning.
- Stuart Hudson, Vice president for Educational Outreach-National Wildlife Foundation
Heard (today!) 4-2-97 on Minnesota Public Radio.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This year the senior seminar will experiment with a unique format. We will explore the viability of the integration of academic learning with service learning. The heart of your work in this course will be your experience in a nonprofit agency, one that is in some ways concerned with the education and welfare of young people. In addition to our weekly seminar meetings, you are required to work in that agency for a minimum of four hours a week. Our seminar time will be spent discussing the readings, exploring the viability of service learning in an academic setting and describing and analyzing your individual experiences at your agencies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course strives to integrate community service into an academic learning context. A primary objective of the course is to provide you with a unique opportunity to participate in and contribute to a non-profit agency. This experience should help you learn more about such agencies, about the communities they strive to serve, and about the relationship of those agencies to other institutions, especially educational institutions. The course seeks to provide you with opportunities to reflect on that experience in a variety of ways, through reading, writing, and conversations with classmates and members of the agencies you’ll serve. The course seeks to provide an opportunity for you to explore ways in which you can learn from and contribute to others through service learning. It also seeks to introduce you to a variety of non-teaching careers that are still primarily grounded in the service of children and their education. Finally, together we will explore the possibilities of integrating service learning into the regular curriculum at Carleton College.
PRIMARY TEXTS (Other readings will be distributed as handouts)

R. Coles, *The Call of Service*
B. Barber, *An Aristocracy of Everyone*
J. Dewey, *Experience and Education*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance at every session and regular participation 10%
Weekly participation at a service agency, to be evaluated by that agency 30%
Two thought papers 20%
  
  Paper 1 due Wednesday, April 23
  Paper 2 due Wednesday, May 14
Field report/journal Wednesday, April 30 20%
  Wednesday, May 28
Final site report Wednesday, June 4 20%