

PEER-MENTORING

In the **mentoring program**, faculty members design and sponsor projects to meet the needs of students struggling to achieve or maintain success in a particular program. Faculty recruit student mentors who provide information and guidance to those students based on their own experiences and success.

Some of our current and former projects: Astronomy, Athletics, Biology, Biotechnology, Broadcasting, Business, Chemistry, Child Development/Teacher Preparation, Computer and Information Science, Computer Networking and Information Technology, Dental Assisting, Earth Sciences, Engineering/Welding, Graphic Communications, Health Science, International Student Program, Leadership Development at Southeast Campus, Mathematics, Older Adults, Paralegal/Legal Studies, Photography, Radiologic Technology.



BENEFITS OF PEER-MENTORING AND SERVICE-LEARNING

The majority of mentors and students say that given the opportunity, they would participate in a mentoring or service-learning project again. They point out many benefits from their participation:

- Increased understanding of course material
- Personal satisfaction in helping others
- Increased self-confidence
- Increased communication and interpersonal skill
- A sense of being part of a community
- Increased knowledge of and sensitivity to the challenges others face
- Increased knowledge of City College resources and programs
- Experience and skills that could be put on a resume

PEER-MENTORING

WHAT IS SERVICE-LEARNING?

Educational and service institutions define service-learning differently, but most agree that service-learning integrates community service with academic instruction so that each strengthens the other.

The Office of Mentoring and Service-Learning defines Service-Learning as a teaching and learning method that combines community service and classroom instruction, with a focus on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility. Service-learning reinforces the classroom experience and makes significant contributions to individuals, organizations, and neighborhoods.

SERVICE-LEARNING @CCSF

In our **Service-Learning program**, faculty sponsors either design a service-learning component that is directly related to their course curriculum or they give students academic credit for community service that students do that has been designed through another program that is related to their coursework. Some of our current and former projects:

ASTRONOMY OBSERVING AND OUTREACH, DESIGNING COMMUNITY HEALTH (HEALTH SCIENCE AND GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS), FRESHMAN COMPOSITION SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT (ENGLISH 1A AND 96), HABITAT RESTORATION AT HERON'S HEAD PARK, HOPE (HANDS ON PRACTICAL EDUCATION) FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT, PROJECTS SHINE AND SAIL, RECORDING WORKSHOPS AND MENTORING FOR GIRLS, SAN FRANCISCO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB, SEEING WITH NEW EYES (ESL 79 AND ROSA RESNICK LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND), SELF-HEALING FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN, SERVICE-LEARNING FOR FUTURE TEACHERS, TRANSGENDER VOICES/TRANSGENDER RIGHTS.

The **Office of Mentoring and Service Learning (OMSL)** is unique both nationally and campus-wide because it works to achieve its mission through two innovative student support programs: **Peer Mentoring** and **Service-Learning**. The OMSL is able to offer support for student success and retention across all disciplines, both academic and vocational, and to both credit and noncredit programs.

Established in the spring of 2000 by Frank Chong, Dean of Student Affairs, and Nina Gibson, Coordinator, the OMSL is currently run by the Coordinator, Christine Francisco; Alicia Martinez, Office Assistant; and Camilla Bixler, Coordinator of Project SHINE. MaryLou Leyba-Frank is the Acting Dean of Student Affairs.

Over the past 8 semesters, the program has almost tripled in size, from 14 initial projects to 40 current projects, and now involves approximately 2700 CCSF students as peer mentors, service-learning students or recipients of project support.

To find out more about our Mentoring or Service-Learning projects, call Chris Francisco at (415) 239-3771 or drop by our office in Science Hall, Room 134.



THE MISSION OF THE OFFICE OF MENTORING AND SERVICE LEARNING AT CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO IS TO ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING, PROMOTE TEACHING INNOVATIONS AND INVOLVEMENT, RESPOND TO COMMUNITY NEEDS AND FOSTER CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AND PERSONAL GROWTH.

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SHINE AND SAIL SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT

Project SHINE is a national service-learning initiative that builds partnerships among community colleges, universities and community-based organizations to benefit older immigrants, refugees and college students.

STRENGTHENING OUR CITY COLLEGE COMMUNITY

CCSF students reach out to seniors struggling to overcome barriers to literacy and citizenship. Each week these young people assist older learners in CCSF non-credit citizenship and literacy classes and community based organizations. Inspired by their credit instructors in Political Science, Health and Aging, Foreign Language, ESL, and Social Science, City College students participate in service-learning — they serve the community while testing the theories of the classroom.

CCSF Noncredit English as a Second Language

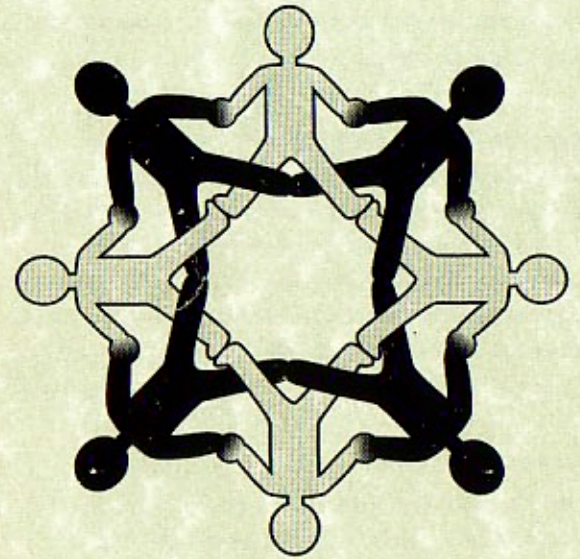
Citizenship Instructors are on the front lines of democracy, putting our nation's ideals into action. These dedicated instructors welcome the energy and idealism of **Project SHINE** coaches.

CCSF Credit Instructors incorporate service-learning into their curriculum when they participate in **Project SHINE**. These instructors design projects that allow students to combine the theory of the classroom with the practical insights garnered from real-world experience.

CCSF ESL Literacy and Native-Language Literacy Instructors work with immigrants with very limited reading and writing skills. **Project SAIL** (Students Assisting in Immigrant Literacies) coaches play a vital role in supporting older learners who are often embarrassed by their educational deficiencies.

They, however, are strengthened in their resolve to succeed by the personal connection and academic support of the CCSF students in **Project SAIL**.

PEER-MENTORING & SERVICE-LEARNING



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Collaboration with SFSU. Projects Shine and Sail were initiated at CCSF in collaboration with San Francisco State University in 1997. Each semester more than 100 CCSF and SFSU students work as volunteer coaches in nearly 60 CCSF classes, preparing elders to take the Immigration and Naturalization Service citizenship test. In addition, these volunteers work with adults struggling to achieve both literacy and English. Each semester the demand for tutors grows as instructors see the impact of the energy and commitment these bright idealistic coaches have on students.

<http://thecity.sfsu.edu/~shine/>

SHINE is coordinated through the Center for Intergenerational Learning at Temple University and is currently being replicated at 18 institutions of higher education in 9 cities across the United States. Since 1997, over 3000 college students have provided more than 60,000 hours of service to 9000 older immigrants and refugees across the country.

<http://www.projectshine.org>

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