Partnering with Youth in Educational Research and Practice

An Introduction to S501 for Community Partners

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Goals of the Course

It is my hope that by the end of this module, students will be able to:

1. Draw on empirical evidence of the importance and utility of including youth voices and perspectives in schools, community-based organizations and research proposals to argue for the significance of this work;

2. Draw on a set of practical tools and insights for how to best incorporate youth voices into schools, community-based organizations and research projects; and

3. Speak honestly and with nuance about the theoretical and ethical dilemmas that arise when adults and youth collaborate.
Course Sequence

During the semester, students in the course will:

1. Explore how educators are partnering with youth in both research- and practice-based settings.

2. Look at theoretical and empirical arguments about the importance of youth voice initiatives, as well as different frameworks for engaging in this work.

3. Explore three broad contexts in which educators frequently partner with youth: (1) youth leadership and/or positive youth development initiatives; (2) youth participatory action research; and (3) youth organizing.

4. Engage in a semester-long project where students partner with youth in the context of a school or community-based organization.
The Roots of Our Work

Critical Pedagogy
Ethnic Studies
Participatory Action Research
Progressive Education
Youth Organizing
The Branches of Our Work

- School-Based Reform Initiatives
- Arts-Based Social Justice Pedagogy
- Youth Participatory Action Research
- Youth Organizing Initiatives
About the Project

The purpose of the project is for students to:

• engage directly with young people in an environment where young people are driving the work,

• learn about the process of partnering with youth by partnering with youth; discover how to scaffold and support youth work, not drive it.

Time Commitment:
3-4 hours/week to observe the space in action
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Between Jan 30- Feb 18</td>
<td>Students enroll in the class, individual students are matched with a partner organization, and make contact to set up a first phone call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Feb 25</td>
<td>Students and partner organizations have first meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between Feb 25– Apr 30</td>
<td>Students spend 2-4 hours/week with your organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By May 2</td>
<td>Observations complete.</td>
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Questions?

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Ready to sign up?
https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6XALUrbUlVJv661

Thank you!