

Faculty Resources: Office of Community-Based Learning (CBL)

Pedagogical Resources

CBL Overview: What is Community-Based Learning? How is CBL different from other service and experiential learning programs? How do you set up a CBL courses? What are best practices in creating a CBL syllabus? CBL website links and the CBL Faculty Coordinator can walk you through the formation of a CBL course and provide other resources and best practices.

Individual meetings: CBL is course, discipline and college-specific at the University of Scranton. Meeting one-on-one with the CBL faculty coordinator and other members of the CBL Office (CBL Chair and Community and Civic Engagement coordinator) is a good way to brainstorm ideas and discuss your interests. Contact CBL Admin Assistant to arrange.

Library Resources: The CBL Office has secured CBL related books for the Weinberg Memorial Library; if you have interest in additional resources please contact the CBL Faculty Coordinator.

CBL Course Designation: You can seek CBL “SL” designation for your course as a new course or to change an existing course. We encourage you to undertake this [CBL course designation process](#) because it alerts students to the CBL component, helps us track CBL, and provides a formal record of your CBL engagement. The process is explained and the form is available on the CBL website.

Faculty Initiatives Fellows Program & Fund

Faculty Fellow program: In 2022, the CBL Office launched a new [CBL Faculty Fellows Program](#) to recognize, reward, and support faculty who are eager to fully integrate CBL as an intentional pedagogical strategy and community engagement activity into their course and/or curricular-based/discipline-oriented project. Applications for the next cohort will be open in February 2024.

Faculty Initiatives Fund: This fund provides an opportunity for faculty to request funding for costs related to CBL courses and/or academic-related community initiatives, including but not necessarily limited to CBL course-related materials, refreshments, transportation, community partner guest speaker honoraria and/or CBL-related conference travel, and registration fees. Each faculty member can submit up to two applications for combined awards of up to \$500 total per academic year. Faculty must use the funds within the calendar year in which they are granted. Funding will be dispersed on a reimbursement basis (in alignment with university financial protocols). [Applications](#) can be submitted on a rolling basis.

Faculty CBL Professional Development Opportunities & Networking

Periodic Events, Workshops, and Activities: The Office of CBL runs periodic workshops and brings in guest speakers throughout the academic year to provide faculty with a chance to learn more about CBL best practices and to get to know the work of faculty colleagues. Have a particular interest or need? Talk with the CBL Faculty Coordinator.

Annual Workshop: In May/June, the Office hosts a CBL Faculty workshop, a two-day in-depth event providing: guidance and training in CBL; networking among CBL faculty; best practices and resources on CBL and Community-Based Research (CBR); connection with Jesuit mission; presentations by and discussion with community partners; and more. Faculty receive a stipend upon completion of the workshop and submission of a reflection report. Workshop information and applications are made available each spring semester.

CBL Board Links to the Scranton Community

The Office of CBL runs with the support of a CBL Board comprised of various campus offices, Deans' offices, and faculty representatives. Links to the Scranton community are developed particularly through the work of two existing campus offices, with their complementary roles described below.

Identifying CBL Partners/Projects: If you are considering incorporating CBL into your course or if you have a "SL" course, please contact Community and Civic Engagement Coordinator, Carolyn Bonacci at Carolyn.bonacci@scranton.edu to identify next steps for community partnerships, including identifying a fit between your CBL course SLO's and community-identified needs for the upcoming year and potentially setting up a meeting with the community partner to discuss collaboration.

Service Non-Profits: The Center for Service and Social Justice works with over 120 non-profit organizations, runs an annual volunteer fair, and maintains a [website of local agencies](#) with [current volunteer opportunities](#) that can serve as direct service opportunities for your CBL course in alignment with your course/discipline focus.

Project-Based CBL: Community and Government Relations has a variety of civic and non-profit links (neighborhood, revitalization, local government, arts/culture, economic insecurity) and maintains a [list of project-based CBL activities and ideas](#) (non-profit capacity building, awareness-raising/oral histories, refugee/immigrant solidarity, racial justice, etc.) that can serve as a community-based project for your CBL course.

In-Class Presentations

Current CBL Opportunities
Scranton 101
Living Wage Report (2022 Update)
Migration: Local and Global Implications
Jesuit Mission/Equity/Positionality
University/Scranton's Black History/Community

Co-curricular Talks or Guest Speakers:

"State of Scranton" Seminars
"CBL Talks" Series
Community Partner Guest Speakers
Downtown Experiential Walking Tours

Website for Office of Community-Based Learning: www.scranton.edu/cbl

Contact information:

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