

IN 171 – Serving Community - Fieldwork 1
Wartburg Theological Seminary – Fall 2022
Rev. Stacey Nalean-Carlson, Instructor

Course Description

This course invites both action and reflection. Students partner with community service organizations to serve the common good, practicing accompaniment and exploring bridge-building between church and community. Typically, fieldwork is completed in service organizations, although service can also be offered in a congregation, parish, or other organized ministry. Collaborative Learning students are especially encouraged to engage this course through opportunities available in their ministry sites with already established community partners. Students engage a minimum of 30 hours per semester in community service through three projects that meet both the goals of the organization and the student. Projects in this course focus on the following Pastoral-Diaconal Practices: Collegiality, Ecclesial Partnership, and Curiosity. Students gather with one another in plenaries to hear from expert practitioners and for small group reflection on their fieldwork service and related projects.

Course Objectives

- To serve the community through contextual engagement
- To develop and hone a ministry identity in the public square
- To collaborate with community service organizations
- To learn how to build bridges between the church and the community
- To demonstrate an openness to personal growth

Pastoral-Diaconal Practices

This course fosters the “Twelve Pastoral-Diaconal Practices” of Wartburg Seminary, especially

- Practice of Collegiality
- Practice of Ecclesial Partnership
- Practice of Curiosity

Course Contact

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