Empowerment of the University Students from the Service Learning

A Case Study of the Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou
Content

► Challenge of the High Education in the Social Transition of China

► Course on Civil Society and Development

► The role and impact of service learning

► Empower: New Field and New Habitus
I. Challenge of the High Education in the Social Transition
Social Transition

- Rapid Economic Development
- Slow Social reform
- Social Structural can not adapt to the Economic change
Social problems: Environment degradation
Social problems: employment
Challenge of Higher Education

► Long tradition of service, but no learning!

► Lack of the connection to the different social class

► Lack of awareness of social change

► University Only for professionals training, not for human development
Consequence: Youth’s Powerless
Education in the Crossroad
Higher Education: the Eve of a Great Reform
1. De-Administration in the University: Divide Power between administration and Academics
Introducing Liberal & Arts Education
Service-learning Experiment
II. Course on Civil Society and Development
Aim

- Under the social transition
- Aware of the development problems
- Know about philanthropy NGOs and its role
Method

► Invite the activists as the guest speaker

► Video and People’s theatre

► Service learning experiment
In the Classroom
Outside the Classroom: Group service learning

課程《公民社會與發展》

小組服務

發展議題
公民性
公益行動
全球視野

環境
教育
勞工
形別
網絡
社會創新
中山大學
公共藝術
Three types of service learning
2.1 Participation in the community service
2.2 self-design service
2.3 Investigation on the grassroots
真实的世界上体验：具体的体验
(2) 反省内省：观察及省思
(3) 归纳：摘要出现观念并形成结论
(4) 应用：将结句实用于新的环境中

产生意义
experience → applying → generalizing → reflection → experience
III Role and impact of SV
3.1 learn the Major knowledge
3.2 learn Citizenship
3.3 learn how to cooperation
3.4 Learn and redefine Self
Grown-up from the service-learning
IV Empower: New Field and New Habitus
Two powerful applications in China Universities

► Action learning for knowledge

► Citizen Education for the next elites
Creat the new field in the university

1. embedded in the academic courses
2. Connect the theory with the practical need from the community
3. teaching game rule change: experience, reflection and sharing
Teacher-student Relationship

► Facilitator

► Instructor

► Co-study partner
Student: the Subject of education
New Habitus: Civil-minded Leadership

- Social responsibility
- Citizen rights
- Voluntarism
- Solidarity
- Tolerance
But it is still fragile

► Need the voluntary devotion of the teacher: Time, Energy, Wisdom and Heart

► Lack of knowledge and skills for service
Frustration, Disappointment and give up
Service Learning also need innovation

- Extended the meaning of service
- Focus on how to transform the professional knowledge to the service
- Encourage the youth’s creativity
Teacher also need Service-learning!
Thanks 😊