Community-Based Learning Classes...
...foster the ability to connect academic learning with action in the world. These classes require students to work with off-campus community organizations. They seek to benefit their partner organization and our shared community by addressing a need or strengthening a capacity that serves the common good.

ECON 250-002: Financial Literacy
(Prof. David Anderson, Wed 7:00-9:30 p.m., and “Lab” on Mon OR Thurs 4:00-5:00 p.m.) 4 credits. Gen Ed: QUAN, OFFC
This class will teach students the foundational skills needed for a life of sound money management. Examine key drivers of effective money management: financial planning, budgeting, saving, investing and the use/abuse of credit cards. Explore policy measures taken in the wake of the recent US financial crisis. Become Certified Financially Literate from a recognized accreditation agency. Students will apply their skills and help underserved youth by teaching about financial literacy in an after school program for middle school students in Morristown, NJ. Class will meet Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 p.m.; students must also register for the “lab” period on Mondays OR Thursdays 4:00-5:00 p.m. (travel time NOT included) required for the community on-site course component.

Psyc 375: Community-Based Learning in Psychology: Understanding and Assessing Psychological Development in Preschoolers. (Prof. Janet Davis, Tue 1:15-3:45, and “Lab” on Wed OR Fri 9:00-11:00 a.m.) 4 credits. Gen Ed: OFFC
In this course students will read primary source literature on psychological development in preschool age children, with emphases on 1) how biological, cognitive, and social-emotional development underpin the successful transition to kindergarten and 2) evidence-based policy recommendations for preschool education. For the community based/field work component students will work on a research project in partnership with the United Way of Northern NJ. Specifically, students will observe preschoolers in local child care centers, collect and analyze data on social-emotional development, and present their findings to the United Way. Class will meet Tuesdays 1:15-3:45; students must also register for “lab” field work on Wednesdays OR Fridays 9:00-11:00 am, (travel time NOT included), during which they will be at local child care centers in Madison or Morristown.

SOC 302: Contemporary Issues in Sociology—Urban Ethnography (Prof. Kesha Moore, Wed 7:00-9:30 p.m., and “Lab” on Tue 4:30-6:00 p.m.) 4 credits. Gen Ed: OFFC
*Prerequisite: Intro to Sociology or Instructor permission*
In this class, you will assume the role of the sociologist as you gain hands-on experience by carrying out your own ethnographic research project. Each student will contribute to one of five service-learning project teams and conduct an individual ethnography organized around food justice as it relates to urban ecology. Students will serve as Citizen Teachers (CT) to Newark middle school students on the project themes. As teachers, you will guide your students to discover knowledge about Newark through hands-on empirical research. This research will be incorporated into your final ethnographic paper for the course. Newark, NJ will be used as a case study to explore the significance of the city as a geographical, cultural, economic and political entity, as well as a reflection of the social, economic and political structure of the society. Students must also register for Tuesday “Lab” 4:30-6:00 p.m. (travel time NOT included) for the community on-site course component in Newark.

For more information, contact the course instructor or the Center for Civic Engagement at engage@drew.edu