

Service Learning Projects:
The Sterling Hope Center and the Sterling Community
Senior Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies
Dr. Gregory Bruce

1. Urban walkabouts in the Sterling neighborhood:

TASKS

- Canvass the neighborhood; engage in immersive streetwork.

OUTCOMES (for NGU students)

- Learn to “read” the needs of a specific community (peripatetically).
- Develop strategies for “bottom-up” and “asset-based” urban development.

2. Oral narrative in Sterling:

TASKS

- Continue collecting and archiving the stories of senior residents.
- Present, using creative means, the stories to the students at the Sterling Hope Center (drama, painting, etc.).
- Involve students in the interview process.
- Complete neighborhood cookbook (“Griots and Grits Project”).

OUTCOMES

- Relate narrative to urban development (community identity, tradition, meaning, confidence and hope).

3. Literacy and leadership:

TASKS

- Rework the “Pen-pal Project” (multi-modal literacy via modeling).
- Help with the spelling bee (spring).
- Tutor and mentor.

OUTCOMES

- Gain experience in teaching in urban settings.

4. Developing Talents.

TASKS

- Nurture artistic abilities among Sterling students (a mural project?).
- Develop a program for the Fall Festival or the Day of Hope and Healing (spring).

OUTCOMES

- Gain practical experience in event planning and talent development.
- Explore community healing through the arts.

5. Raising Awareness:

TASKS

- Design a brochure and create a video for the Sterling Hope Center.

OUTCOMES

- Enhance portfolio and gain experience in urban culture.