

***Breakaway- Alternative Spring Break:
Transforming Students into Active
Citizens***

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Breakaway- Alternative Spring Break

- Breakaway-Alternative Spring Break is a national movement across colleges and universities that allows students to make a positive difference through service over extended breaks from school.
- At UWF, Breakaway- Alternative Spring Break is a student based program that allows student direction in developing service opportunities that impact campus, local, and regional communities.
- Students plan and coordinate local service projects throughout the year culminating in a week long service based trip over Spring Break.

Eight Components

Breakaway: Alternative Spring Break

- Strong Direct Service
- Orientation
- Education
- Training
- Reflection
- Re-orientation
- Diversity
- Alcohol and other drug free

Rationale

- Aligns with the university's mission
- Students build valuable interpersonal, organizational, and career skills
- Allows students to explore and understand the value of service through their contributions and interactions with societal needs.
- Assists students in their development into active citizens
- Greater focus given to increasing student learning and civic education strategies

Instructional Strategies

- (4) one day service projects directly related to the issue chosen
- Use of (2) one-day, fundraisers to promote student and group project planning, conceptualization, teamwork and communication skills.
- Use of formal reflections after every service project

Instructional Strategies

- Service projects
- Fundraising efforts
- One week service project over Spring Break to actualize and culminate the year's preparation and service by the group prior to that point.
- Reorientation session and service project

Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome	Measure or Performance Indicator	Report Cycle
Students will explain what and how they have learned through volunteer service and service-learning.	Evaluated by scoring students' description of what they have learned from the applicable experience against the "Learned through Service" rubric.	Evaluated at the end of each project and semester
Students will describe how they could make a difference in the world through their service experience.	Evaluated by scoring students' description of how they can make a difference in the world through their applicable experiences against the "Make a Difference" rubric.	Evaluated at the end of each project and semester

Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome	Measure or Performance Indicator	Report Cycle
Students will demonstrate professional behavior during service experiences.	Evaluated by asking students, faculty members, Volunteer UWF! Supervisor, site supervisors, and/or agency supervisors to rate students' professional behavior based on the "Professional Behavior" rubric.	Evaluated at the end of each project and semester
Students will demonstrate proficient teamwork and communication skills.	Evaluated by asking students, faculty members, Volunteer UWF! Supervisor, site supervisors and/or agency supervisors to rate students' teamwork, and communication skills based on the "Teamwork" and "Communication" rubrics.	Evaluated at the end of each project and semester

Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome	Measure or Performance Indicator	Report Cycle
Students will make a plan to address a community need.	Evaluated by asking students, faculty member, and/or Volunteer UWF! Supervisor to rate students plan based on the “Planning” rubric.	Evaluated at the end of each project and semester
Students will demonstrate proficient communication skills.	Evaluated by asking students, faculty members, Volunteer UWF! Supervisor and/or agency supervisors to rate student’s communication skills based on the “Communication” rubric.	Evaluated at the end of each semester
Students will identify potential opportunities and motivation for civic engagement and responsibility in the communities in which they will likely live and work.	Evaluated by scoring students’ statements of potential opportunities and motivation for civic engagement and responsibility against the “Civic Engagement” rubric.	Evaluated at the end of each semester

*From Hands on Gulf Coast: Biloxi, MS
Service Project Reflection:
Veterans Day 2006*



Early Feedback

From Hands on Gulf Coast: Biloxi, MS

Service Project Reflection: Veterans Day 2006

What happened today?

- “We finished gutting a church that had been picked up by storm surge and put back down. It had been infected with mold. We tore out carpets, swept floors, and pulled out nails and took down drywall.”
- “A lot! We were able to do a whole bunch at the church and become engaged in the community at Hands on Gulf Coast. The work wasn’t right up my alley but it was still important and very much needed.”

Early Feedback

From Hands on Gulf Coast: Biloxi, MS

Service Project Reflection: Veterans Day 2006

What did your experience mean to you?

- “It was amazing seeing how damaged the area was after over a year. I felt very humbled to have helped out in the church.”
- “It was a fulfilling experience. I enjoyed helping others, and especially in communities that need as much work as Biloxi. I was also very surprised by how bad the city still was after a year after the storm.”
- “It was awesome to see all of us working together as a team. I will remember it always.”
- “It meant a lot! We were able to accomplish so much and meet so many new people. I really enjoyed it and learned a lot by being involved.”

Early Feedback

From Hands on Gulf Coast: Biloxi, MS

Service Project Reflection: Veterans Day 2006

- **What are your feelings about today?**
 - “I love volunteering and it felt very rewarding.”
 - “I had a good time, worked hard, got dirty and helped the community.”
 - “I had wonderful time I am really excited about tomorrow.”
 - “I feel really good about today. I feel like I’ve done a really good thing and had a positive impact. I worked really hard and gave today’s work my all.”

Early Feedback

From Hands on Gulf Coast: Biloxi, MS
Service Project Reflection: Veterans Day 2006

- **What did you learn today?**
 - “I learned even though it had been over a year since Hurricane Katrina, this area still needs a lot of help and that I am needed in other ways beside for school work...”
 - “I learned that I have the most wonderful bunch of friends and that together we can accomplish anything.”
 - “I learned some skills but also a lot about the importance and impact of serving. From the group I learned that we all have to come together to get things done, even though we may not enjoy doing a particular task. Imagine if everyone else had that attitude. Through our project I learned the importance of willing individuals committed to change.”

2007 Spring Break : Twin Lakes, VA State Park



03/22/2007

Feedback

- “Our group is awesome! We all seem to be getting along and working well together. The work has been going pretty well. We’ve been very efficient as a group and have got a lot accomplished in the past two days.”
- “Reflections today was such a good idea...we came together more as a group in the end. I felt as if we all learned more about each other. The car ride home was also enlightening, as opinions were spoken and personalities were further discovered. Learning and listening about/ to people was definitely a highlight and having meals together with the group with the group is another highlight.”

Feedback

- “Yesterday was great. We went on a beautiful nature walk with Chris (park ranger) and had a fabulous dinner and coffee. I got to get to know more about the people who are on the trip with me. It’s strange how you can know someone for almost an entire year in school, but not really know them.”

Feedback

- “It’s so nice to know that there is such an organization as ASB. Being able to get away, make a difference, and experience a different part of the country- All while having fun is such an important and rewarding experience while in college. ASB helps me to realize and understand what’s going on in the world and how I can change things for the better. I really value this experience. The time spent at Twin Lakes has given me the opportunity to help the environment, learn about issues concerning State Parks, and learn about the history and culture of the people in southwest VA. I can’t wait for next year!”

Other Outcomes

- Student led weekly service trips to Manna Food Bank
- Campus Cleanup Project: cleanup and advocacy project led and facilitated by ASB members for all students and student organizations to help cleanup campus and raise awareness for Earth Day and the pollution issues our area faces – planned for Earth Day: April 22nd, 2007

Questions ???

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Breakaway- Alternative Spring Break

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