EPIC - Criminal Justice and Health and Human Services
395 Courses – SPRING 2010

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Context

EPIC Mission Statement

The mission of the EPIC Program is to promote community service learning by creating opportunities for university students to be civically engaged and implement classroom theory in real life situations. Through community service, EPIC inspires and enables university students to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and engaged citizens by volunteering in a wide range of agencies serving a broad spectrum of communities throughout the Los Angeles area.

Methods

- Students wishing to enroll in Criminal Justice and Health and Human Services 395 courses for Spring 2010 were given a pre assessment survey prior to issuing a permit to register for the course.

- The survey asked if they: had previously utilized the services of the EPIC office; ever performed volunteer service; previously served at the agency they selected; and, were familiar with some of the needs in the community they were going to serve.

- A post assessment survey was conducted at a mandatory reflection session during the 8th week of the quarter to evaluate their post service responses to the questions posed in the pre assessment survey.

Results

Number of Respondents – 42

Final analysis of the responses from Spring 2010 will need to be completed during Fall 2010 but initial review indicates the following.

- 85% of respondents reported greater knowledge of the placement process and EPIC services.

- 76% of the students reported increased knowledge of specific needs in the community they served.

- 81% of students were able to articulate specific incidents regarding the impact their volunteer service had upon the community they served.

Next Steps

During Fall 2010 EPIC student and full time staff will:

- Conduct complete review of Spring 2010 data.

- Review and revise, as needed, the assessment instruments.

- Meet with academic departments that offer the 395 course to discuss our efforts and consider expansion of assessment efforts.

- Administer assessment for CRIM and HHS 395 students.

Student Feedback

- “I didn’t know that EPIC existed until someone conducted a presentation in my class. I wish I had volunteered sooner.”

- “Serving the community made me more aware of how privileged I am and that I have a responsibility to help others.”

- “I’ve done a lot of volunteer service in the past and I’m glad that our campus supports it.”