

Community Engagement and Outreach

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

Community Engagement

Occurs in context of reciprocal community partnerships

Linked to educational context for students and includes structured reflection

Builds skills to address critical societal issues

Community Outreach within Partnership

Shares University knowledge and resources within reciprocal community relationships

Community Outreach

Shares University knowledge and resources

Offers skill and group-building opportunities for students

Supports communities

Definitions

Community engagement describes a spectrum of activities that occur in the context of a reciprocal collaboration between University students, faculty, and staff and partners in our larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global). Community engagement is characterized by an approach that values the knowledge and potential in our communities.

The purpose of community engagement is to link University knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors in order to enrich learning and teaching; enhance scholarship, research, and creative activity; prepare educated, engaged leaders and community members; strengthen democratic values and social responsibility; and contribute to the public good.

Community outreach emphasizes the informed sharing of the University's knowledge and resources with individuals, groups, organizations, and/or the public in general.

The purpose of community outreach is to cultivate civic participation, to extend liberal arts learning to communities beyond campus, and to be a good neighbor.

