

Selma University



CHRISTIAN SERVICE HANDBOOK

REVISED OCTOBER 2022

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2023

Dr. Stanford E. Angion, President

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Mission Statement

Selma University's mission is to prepare students to be servant leaders, inspire a spirit of generative servant leadership in the communities where they live and work.

The school offers a quality educational program with liberal arts emphasis, equipping diverse students spiritually, intellectually, and socially; thereby, producing graduates who lead in the profession for which they were trained.

In an effort to fulfill its mission, Selma University is committed to achieving the following goals:

Strategic Goals

1. Preparing scholarly and faithful leaders in all the areas they choose to serve.
2. Creating communities of academic inquiry by providing the necessary resources within the school and beyond.
3. Creating an environment that is both spiritual and academic, which enables students to develop ethical character during their academic endeavor and in the future.
4. Reaching disadvantaged students whose circumstances have thwarted their efforts for normal educational opportunities.
5. Advancing operational strength and enhancing an appealing campus environment through developing relationships and generating resources that promote the Institutional Mission.

Definition of Christian Services

At Selma University, "Christian service is an intentional act of kindness where a student helps others in need by performing good deeds free of charge in a spirit of love that follows the teachings of Jesus Christ as a model."

Introduction

This manual is designed to explain and guide the Christian Service Director, faculty and students at Selma University through the Christian service requirements of the institution.

Through its Christian Service program, students at Selma University have the opportunity to put what they learn into practice in ministry. The program is one of the first steps of a lifelong ministry. Through this program a student is able to use his or her God given talents in many ways. An attempt is made to place the student in the area of his or her academic major; however, in all areas of curriculum major, God is at the center of our service to humanity.

Christian service helps us to demonstrate our commitment to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who once said, “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45 ESV)

Objective

Christian service is a very important and required part of the Selma University experience. Selma University’s main objective through its Christian Service Program is to develop the spiritual, intellectual, and social needs of its students while preparing them for life-long service.

Objectives for the Student

As to the Development of Vocational Skills

- To develop the student’s skills in applying academic principles to practical situations.
- To give the student confidence in experience as well as content.
- To assist the student in discovering his or her God given abilities as they are related to Christian service.
- To develop the ability to work with various age groups in varying situations.

As to Motivation

- To provide positive experience which will serve as an incentive for future Christian service.
- To encourage students to develop biblical motives for serving Christ and the church.

As to Personal Qualities

- To develop qualities of leadership—initiate ability to plan, organize, direct, and supervise.
- To help the student develop virtues of faithfulness and perseverance.
- To teach dependence upon the Lord for strength, wisdom, and ability.
- To develop spiritual maturity.
- To respond to the constraining love of Christ.
- To discover the joy of Christian service.
- To cultivate in the student a sense of responsibility in carrying out the various Christian service

assignments.

- To develop sensitivity to the problems and needs of people, churches, etc.

As to the Church

- To aid the student in gaining working knowledge of his vital connection with God's agency for the propagation of the Gospel—the local church.
- To help the student gain a knowledge and appreciation for Christian service opportunities in the local church.
- To learn the meaning of interdependence in the body of Christ.

As to Working with Others

- To help the student learn to work cooperatively with others, with humility and appreciation.
- To learn to act in a spiritual way rather than a carnal way toward defects in Christian organizations and their personnel.

Christian Service Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to articulate how this experience helped prepare them for the future practice of ministry.
2. Students will be able to articulate how the experience awakened or deepened their sensitivity to ministry concerns. (Ministry = meeting the needs of people)
3. Students will be able to articulate how the Christian service experience helped to develop qualities of servant leadership.

Students should choose activities that help them explore these outcomes. Or consider these outcomes as they serve in the ministry areas in which they are already assigned or called. These areas, the future practice of ministry, sensitivity to ministry concerns, and qualities of servant leadership are tantamount to the Christian service experience. When properly assessed, they add value, not only to the Christian service experience, but to the ministry experience as well.

Acceptable Christian Service Activities

At Selma University every student must be involved in an aspect of Christian Service.

- ✓ Evangelistic Ministries
 - Nursing Home
 - Hospital
 - Hospice Situations
- ✓ Helping with Outreach Ministries

- Food Distribution
- Clothing Closets/Give Aways
- ✓ Tutoring at an afterschool program (Volunteer)
- ✓ Community cleanup projects.
- ✓ Other Activities Pre-approved by Chief Academic Officer or Christian Service Director

Christian service is not an extra-curricular activity, but an essential part of the total training program. Whereas a student does not receive a letter grade for Christian Service, he or she cannot graduate without meeting the requirements of Christian Service. A student must also demonstrate Christian character as a student and while doing Christian service in order to graduate. The requirements are as follows:

Quantitative Requirements

- ✓ A full-time Bachelor of Arts student must complete 60 hours of Christian service. (10 Christian service hours per semester)
- ✓ A part-time Bachelor of Arts student must carry out Christian service until he/she completes 90 semester hours (six semesters) of academic work. (60 Christian service hours)
- ✓ A full-time Associate of Arts student must complete 30 hours of Christian service.
- ✓ A part-time Associate of Arts student must carry out Christian service until he/she completes 45 semester hours (three semesters) of academic work. (30 Christian service hours.)

The appropriate forms must be completed **once per month** for each semester, defining the service and recording the hours:

A Christian service supervisor is defined as an individual who regularly observes the service that is provided. This person can be the church pastor, church clerk, or an auxiliary or ministry leader who supervises the service rendered and completes the appropriate form. If preaching and/or pastoring is the service rendered, the individual **cannot** perform as his or her own supervisor.

Activity	Hours Per Week	Hours Per Semester (Up to)¹
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Quantitative Values of Service Per Activity

Evangelistic Ministries	2 (each occurrence)	10
Nursing Home		
Hospital		
Hospice & Palliative Care		
Outreach Ministries	2 (each occurrence)	10
Food Distribution		
Clothing Closets		
Disaster Assistance		

These numbers are examples based on the assumed length of time need to prepare and perform these duties. Individual numbers may vary; however, at least this length of time is expected for the activities to be both quantitative and qualitative Christian service activities.

¹ Based on 12 weeks (or three months) of each semester.



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Christian Service Report

Student's Name: _____

Place and Address of Christian Service:

Phone: _____

Christian Service Rendered:

The Amount of Time Involved in Rendering this Service:

Did you render any other service? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes explain:

Did you encounter any problems while completing your Christian service? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes explain:

Semester: ____ Fall ____ Spring ____ Summer Year _____

Signature _____ Date _____



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Christian Service Student Self-Evaluation Form

Student's Name: _____

Place and Address of Christian Service:

Phone: _____

What was your objective in this assignment?

Was the objective accomplished? ___ Yes ___ No

If so, to what extent?

If not explain:

How would you rate your preparation for the assignment?

1. ___ Thorough
2. ___ Regular
3. ___ Thoughtful
4. ___ Prayerful
5. ___ Superficial
6. ___ Last Minute
7. ___ Carless

Semester: ___ Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer Year _____

Signature _____ Date _____



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Christian Service Supervisor Evaluation Form

Student's Name: _____

Place and Address of Christian Service:

Phone: _____

Supervisor's Name _____

Supervisor's Phone _____

Type of Service Provided _____

Was the student on time? ____ Yes ____ No

Was the student dependable? ____ Yes ____ No

Was the student present at every meeting? ____ Yes ____ No

Was the student cooperative? ____ Yes ____ No

Was the student tactful? ____ Yes ____ No

Was the student sociable? ____ Yes ____ No

Was the student effective? ____ Yes ____ No

On a scale from one to ten, how would you rate the student for this month? _____

How would you rate the student for this semester? _____

Semester: ____ Fall ____ Spring ____ Summer Year _____

Signature _____ Date _____