

Service Learning & Leadership Seminar (SLLS)

Instructor—Kim Adams

Intersecting with local Optimist Clubs to provide hands-on service for youth-oriented projects.

Spring 2018



Bullet points about impact

- Point 1** Students learned about their individual/group strengths and how to intersect with five projects.
- Point 2** Students in social work, education, and other majors were able to reflect and connect this course to core classes and future careers.
- Point 3** Biggest team project was working with staff and students at Whitewater Middle School to design an outdoor classroom.
- Point 4** Course tied to a number of LEAP elements and community engagement goals for the campus. Total service hours for project = 160 for SLLS students and Student Optimists collaboratively. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony took place on Friday, May 11.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND RESULTS

Kim Adams taught Section 1 of a Service Learning and Leadership Seminar through the Social Work Department. The seminar focused on five hands-on service projects with local Optimist Clubs. The biggest project focused on the Whitewater Middle School (WMS).

1. Collaborated with the Whitewater Middle School staff and students to design and implement an outdoor classroom attached to the LMC.
2. This included planning and implementing landscaping, ordering and assembling furniture, mulching and planting, painting pavers, and a \$2500 contribution (raised with some of the group members at Optimist Trivia Night). A Ribbon Cutting Celebration was held at 2pm on May 11.
3. Team members engaged middle school students through focus groups, planning and picking out furniture, and five hands-work work session in the outdoor space.



Course offered to:

First-year students through senior status enrolled in the course.

Currently exploring with the Social Work Department about offering this course each spring. Decisions will be made after a new Dean of I & S is in place (during summer 2018).

Additional project photos/materials are available upon request.