Moodle: The Service Learning Connection

Christina Bakoyannis
Sevasti Koniosis
Middle School Teachers

November 30, 2018 • MoodleMoot Greece 2018
Introductions

❖ Gather in a small group of 2-3 people nearest you.
❖ Take one minute to introduce yourselves.
❖ Write down ten words that come to mind when you think about service learning. (2 minutes)
❖ Find one commonality between all of you on what you believe service learning means.
Let’s create a service learning wordle.
Service Learning

“... learning that actively involves students in a wide range of experiences, which often benefit others and the community, while also advancing the goals of a given curriculum.”

*Service Learning, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Washington*
Service Learning

A teaching method that:

❖ enables students to learn and apply academic, social, and personal skills to improve the community

❖ focuses on the service and learning

❖ allows for individual growth

❖ develops a lifelong ethic of service
How might educational opportunities inspire and empower students to:

★ understand global & local socioeconomic and environmental problems?
★ make personal connections and be inspired to act?
★ become architects of their own service?
★ incorporate blended learning when face to face time is limited?

Moodle holds the key!
Moodle provides the tools and strategies required to transform U.N. Day, a one day commemorative event, into a YEARLONG SERVICE LEARNING EXPERIENCE despite competing academic demands.
United Nations Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. October 24th has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948.
Advisory Classes at ACS Athens

The Middle School is divided into 17 advisory classes of students.

**Students are:**

- grouped with other students of the same grade level.
- have advisory class once a week.
- learn about issues related to citizenship, health, wellness, service learning and other social issues relevant to middle school students.
In September 2015, 193 world leaders agreed to 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development. If these Goals are completed, it would mean an end to extreme poverty, inequality and climate change by 2030.

Our governments have a plan to save our planet… it’s our job to make sure they stick to it.

The Global Goals are only going to work if we fight for them and you can’t fight for your rights if you don’t know what they are. We believe the Goals are only going to be completed if we can make them famous.
Sustainable development:
Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Sustainable Development

**PEOPLE**: End poverty and hunger in all forms and ensure dignity and equality.

**PLANET**: Protect our planet’s natural resources and climate for future generations.

**PARTNERSHIP**: Implement the agenda through a solid global partnership.

**PEACE**: Foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

**PROSPERITY**: Ensure prosperous and fulfilling lives in harmony with nature.
Advisory Classes + UN Day = Match Made in Heaven
Sustainable Development Goals Assignments

6th Grade: Global Goals about the protection of the environment

7th Grade: Global Goals about poverty

8th Grade: Global Goals about equity
ACS Athens Middle School UN Day 2018

- United Nations Day
- Goal 1: No poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 14: Life Below Water
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Additional programs:
- Waste Free Lunch
- Food Bank
- Roots and Shoots
Service Learning Process

- Pre-service reflection
- Reflection during service
- Post-reflection service
- So what?
- What?
- Now what?
“Service participation shows significant positive effects on all 11 outcome measures: academic performance (GPA, writing skills, critical thinking skills), values (commitment to activism and to promoting racial understanding), self efficacy, leadership (leadership activities, self-rated leadership ability, interpersonal skills), choice of a service career, and plans to participate in service after college… [Service Learning] adds significantly to the benefits associated with community service.”

“[Research] found that students who were involved in service projects gained in terms of personal competence and social responsibility, and developed a more mature understanding of the people living in their community and the problems affecting them; they also found that community service programmes positively influenced students’ opinions of groups such as the elderly, the police and businesspeople.”

Pre-Service Reflection

Have you ever spent time helping people, the environment, or your community without getting paid?
198 responses

- Yes: 82.8%
- No: 17.2%

If you answered yes in the first question, explain whether you enjoyed the volunteer experience.
164 responses

- Yes: 84.8%
- No: 13.4%
- Somewhat: 1.8%
Sharing Experiences - Sparking Motivation

UN DAY 2017  24:04 - 31:49
This is a Blended Course..

Participants engage in learning activities (both in-class and online).

Delivery of course content will be enhanced by using a variety of resources. The instructional design of this blended course reflects the components of i2Flex.

**Blended/i2Flex Key:**

- F2F -> Face to Face: Traditional teaching
- F2F/WB -> Face to Face Web-Based: Teacher as a guide
- WB/bc -> Web-Based before class
- WB/ac -> Web-Based after class
- (i) -> independent learning
- (ii) -> inquiry-based learning
- (Flex) -> Flexible learning
Part 1: Identifying a Local Issue

✓ Understand the goal you have been assigned to and why it matters!
✓ Make connections to our community (Athens or Greece) and learn about organizations who are doing things to help out!

(student instructions)
Part 1a: Understanding the Goal

Why is this goal important?

- Brief Goal Overview - From “The World We Want” Booklet
  
  Read about Goal 1: End Poverty and how States have agreed to achieve it.

- Goal - Comic Form
  
  Also check out this comic that explores the goal briefly!

- Food for Thought

- No Poverty: Why it Matters
  
  Get more details about your goal and why it matters.

- Explore your goal in the Global Goals Website.
Part 1b: Understanding the “Problem”

Articles Related to Poverty in Greece

Top 10 Facts about Poverty in Greece

Extreme poverty in Greece can range from 182 euros per month for a single member suburban or rural household, to 905 euros per month for parents with two children living in Athens and paying rent. In 2009, the percentage of the population in Greece living in extreme poverty was about 2.2 percent. In 2011, the percentage was 8.9. In 2015, extreme poverty levels stood at about 15 percent.

Poverty in Greece – Families in need | DW News
Stepping Away from the Screens
Face-to-Face & Web-Based
Part 1b: Understanding the “Problem”

- Over one in three at risk of poverty in Greece
- Begging for bread: A Greek family under austerity
- "Almost 1.5 Million Greeks Live in Extreme Poverty"
- Greece’s Descent Into Poverty Captured in Photographs
- Extreme Poverty in Greece - Statistics & Data
- The refugee crisis is a problem of poverty, not just migration
“[T]he more radical the person is, the more fully he or she enters into reality so that, knowing it better, he or she can transform it. This individual is not afraid to confront, to listen, to see the world unveiled. This person is not afraid to meet the people or to enter into a dialogue with them. This person does not consider himself or herself the proprietor of history or of all people, or the liberator of the oppressed; but he or she does commit himself or herself, within history, to fight at their side.”

— Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*
Pre-Service Reflection (having understood specified goal & problem)

Brainstorm about related local issues in your community (here in Athens or in Greece in general)...
What do you see around you regarding this issue?

What have you heard about this issue?
What questions do you have?
Last Year’s Highlight

Highlight 2017-2018:

- Rice-Drive through collaboration with Food Bank of Greece.
- Guest speaker
- Rice-Drive competition
  - Winner: 68 kilos of rice collected!

Total amount of rice collected: 230kg

- Decide on which kind of service you would like to provide:
  - Direct (face-to-face)
  - Indirect (helping out behind the scenes)
  - Raising awareness
  - Research

- Develop an **Action Plan**
  - Must be specific and achievable this year!
  - Will be submitted on Moodle and posted on the bulletin board at the end of the day.

*(student instructions)*
# Part 2a: Connecting with Local Organizations

## Part 2: Developing an Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 Ways to End Poverty</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Simple Ways You Can Fight Poverty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Local Organizations that Help Fight Poverty in Greece - These are just a FEW examples!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hellenic Hope</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hellenic Hope Projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideas to help people suffering in Greece - INCLUDES SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athens Marathon - Charity Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boroume Organization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*his non-profit group fights food waste by organizing the distribution of surplus food for charities in Athens, Patras and Thessaloniki.*
Part 2b: Creating Action Plans

Review interesting, creative, and realistic ways that young people took action for the goal to end hunger (for ideas on their own goal!)

How other students took action on a similar issue: Hunger.

ACTION PLAN: Download and Complete
Action Plan Criteria

Checklist:

- Your action plan should be
  - Specific!
    - Include details about who/what/when/where/how
  - Realistic and attainable!
    - Make sure that it is something that a large group of middle students could do
  - Results oriented!
    - There should be a purpose to your action plan. While we may not save the world, there should be some results!
  - Relevant
    - Needs to be connected to your goal on a local level in Greece. If you are meeting the goal of ending poverty, for example, it is relevant to focus on helping students get an education, or giving food to the poor.
  - Time bound!
    - The plan should produce results this academic year, and include a plan for a one day outreach.
Make the action plan SMARTer! (by giving it some more detail)

STUDENT NAMES:

ADVISOR NAME:

UN Day Goal:

Your service learning purpose:
The purpose of this field trip/project is to _______________________________________

Think Local:
What local issue would this issue address?
Why is it important to do something about it?

Think Global:
How does your service learning field trip/project address the UN Day Goal?

Organization contacted:
Name of Organization:
Contact person:
What can be done with this organization?

Results
What would you like the results to be?
How would the students benefit from this project?
Part 3: Feedback on Action Plan

Please review the feedback given to you in the attached document. This will give you some idea as to what you need to do next in order to accomplish your goal.

Let's take this one step further!

Dialogue (Moodle activity) can also be used for feedback.
Action Plan Feedback

**Action Plan**

1. We have connected with Habibi Center and have shared a brief description of our action plan.
2. We will check to see if we can reuse spare or unneeded textbooks or materials on campus.
3. Separate materials according to topic: European history, Animal classification, Plant classification, Continent geography, European Geography and cultures, Most Important Inventions. These are the topics that were specified in the email from the Habibi Center.
4. We will work on topics in groups within the advisory (each group does different “project”)
   - Storybooks, collages, posters, Kahoot, Khan academy-like videos, Quizlet, timelines
5. Blended Learning? Online and Face to Face?

Comment [WU1]: I really like this idea. It is very innovative and out-of-the-box! I also really like that the work will be divided among the advisories. Some video recordings of lessons would also be great if there is a possibility of face to face learning at their center. Can’t wait to hear more of how this is coming along!
Advisories will develop their Action Plans throughout the school year during advisory time and with the assistance of the advisor. At the end of the year, there will be an exhibition where groups will present the work they did and show how they helped meet their assigned Sustainable Development Goal!
Roots and Shoots Extension

ACS Athens welcomes Dr. J. Goodall
#JaneGreece2018
ACS Athens Welcomes Jane Goodall

On December 16th, 2018, Dr. Jane Goodall will be visiting our school. 6th and 7th graders will have an opportunity to speak to Dr. Goodall about their Roots and Shoots Projects that they developed through their UN Day Action Plans with their advisories. 3-4 students per advisory will represent the group. If you are interested in representing the group, please express your interest below. Part of your commitment would be to put together the poster presentation for the day and to be present to speak to Dr. Jane Goodall about your advisory's project.

* Required

Email address *

Your email

Are you interested in presenting your Advisory's Roots and Shoots project? *

(Part of your responsibility is to put together the poster and to be ready to speak to Dr. Jane Goodall)

- Yes
- No

What is the name of your advisory teacher? *

Your answer

What is the name of your Roots and Shoots project? *

Your answer

A copy of your responses will be emailed to the address you provided.
Username: student
Password: Moodle2018

Please write down any thoughts and suggestions for improvement of the U.N. Day Moodle Shell! We would love to hear from you!
The school must be “a genuine form of active community life, instead of a place set apart in which to learn lessons”.

John Dewey