Community Engaged Learning (CEL) Component

This component is optional and offered on a first come/first serve basis. Up to 25 students will be accepted into this special section of BIOL3510. The CEL component will be graded on a pass/fail basis. *It does not effect your overall class grade for Biochemistry.* If you complete the CEL requirements, you will “pass” and receive the CEL attribute on your transcript. The CEL component is made up of three parts:

1. *Community engaged learning hours.* You should complete 20 hours of meaningful, science-related volunteer work by the end of the semester. The class instructor can help you connect with opportunities, and you can complete with a single or multiple organizations. The 20-hour commitment works out to a little more than 1 hour/week. Most opportunities will involve working with middle and high school students in various settings.

2. *Reflection Discussions.* You will participate in 2-3 out-of-class small group discussions focusing on your plans for and experiences with community engaged volunteering.

3. *Reflection Essay.* You will write one 4-page essay, due at the end of the semester (double spaced, 12 pt font, and normal margins.) Content should reflect on your community engaged learning experiences, describe your project(s), how they connect with this and other classes, what you have learned while planning/volunteering, etc., how it connects with your professional and educational aspirations, etc.