

### KSUC-OI-036

## The collaborative service learning activities of An Giang University's English-major students and suggestions for service learning courses

Huynh Thanh Tien<sup>1</sup>, Ellen Ku<sup>2</sup> and Huynh Thanh Viet<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Resource Center for Community Development, An Giang University, Vietnam

<sup>2</sup>School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

<sup>3</sup>Faculty of Information Technology, An Giang University, Vietnam

---

### Abstract

Service learning (SL) is a practical teaching approach combining meaningful services to the community with curriculum-based learning. Students improve their skills by applying their academic knowledge into real communities; they then reflect on their experience to enhance the connection between students' service and their academic learning (*Baltimore County Public Schools, 2018*). However, few Vietnamese higher education institutions have implemented this practical teaching method in their training courses. This paper aims to provides a glance at the SL application in some HEIs in and its benefits towards instructors and students in the SL project process. Two main research methods were used in this study: (i) the document analysis method used to explore the resilient advantages of the SL application from the websites of foreign institutions seen to be strong in the applicability of the SL approach, and (ii) an open-question survey was sent to 14 participative students from An Giang University to learn about their SL perceptions. This paper ends with providing recommendations for the SL applications in some of this institution's academic programs.

**Keywords:** Application, Community, Employability, Higher education, Teaching method