# Service Learning in an Online Math Course

Dr. Kimberly N Bennekin Professor of Mathematics Department of Mathematics & Computer Science, Online Campus Perimeter College, Georgia State University

# What is Service Learning?

Many schools have various definitions, but Georgia State's definition is:

Service Learning is an organized academic learning opportunity that allows students to be of service to the community through "real-world" experiences.

# Types of Service Learning

- Direct Service Learning face-to-face or "inperson" service that has a direct impact on those receiving the service.
- Indirect Service Learning service that is not provided directly, but still has an impact on those receiving the service.

# Why Have Service Learning?

- Service learning is meant to allow students to apply what they have learned in the classroom to realworld situations.
- It is meant to benefit both the giver and the receiver of the service.
- Some individual professors have incorporated it into their classes as a supplement.
- Some schools make it a requirement for some courses.

# Service Learning by Course Design

- Our discipline made service learning a requirement of the course Math 2008, Foundations of Numbers & Operations. It is the math methods course for future elementary school teachers.
- This course is offered both face-to-face and online. The online sections of the course outweigh the on-campus sections by 4-1.

### How do we carry out service learning?

### **Direct Service Learning Examples**

- Volunteer at STEM Days & Nights at Vanderlyn, Dunwoody, & Austin elementary schools
- Volunteer at the BEST Robotics Competition
- Live online tutoring via online classroom (\*for the EMC)
- Elementary Math Competition volunteers
- Team teaching days at Flat Shoals Elementary



# Flat Shoals Elementary STEM Day Fall 2017

# Best Robotics Competition 2016 & 2017



https://www.facebook.com/kim.benn ekin/videos/10207525214072848/?t=3

#### What if a student cannot attend?

- The main problem with our direct service learning opportunities was you had to be physically present to participate.
- An online student may not physically be able to attend an in-person event.

#### Examples of Indirect Service Learning

- Flat Shoals Elementary Lesson Plan Project
- Elementary Math Competition Review Videos
- Sequoyah Middle School Final Exam Review Videos

# Example Videos Created by Students

- https://www.screencast.com/t/4M7ZgTkRM
- http://www.screencast.com/t/ngiGYEAVPw
- http://www.screencast.com/t/MDg9D1E70yAL

# Brainstorm Session on Service Learning

- Service Learning in Statistics
- Service Learning in Geometry (\*Origami)
- Service Learning in Trigonometry (\*Moon cycles & surfing)
- Service Learning College Algebra
- Service Learning in Calculus

# Questions?

Dr. Kimberly N Bennekin **Professor of Mathematics Department of Mathematics & Computer Science** Online Campus, Perimeter College Georgia State University Email: kbennekin@gsu.edu Voicemail: 678-212-7549

