

Liberal Arts Action Lab

Join a Hartford research team
Earn 2 Trinity or 6 Capital credits
Make a difference in the city



photo:
Nick
Caito

Apply by March 26th for Fall 2018 teams:

- Traffic Safety
- Food Stories
- Sustainable Food
- Opportunity Youth
- Home Ownership
- \$15 Dollar Wage

Go to <http://action-lab.org>

Questions? Contact Action Lab Director
Professor Megan.Brown@trincoll.edu

Apply to Action Lab by March 26th for Fall 2018 teams:

You must be available for two classes that meet at Trinity's downtown Hartford campus, 10 Constitution Plaza:

- LAAL 200 Action Research Methods (Mondays 1:15-3:55pm)
- LAAL 201 Hartford Research Project (choose Tues or Wed or Thu around 1:30-4:10pm, or Wed 6:30-9:10pm)

Students will learn new skills and receive guidance to complete a small-team research project, in collaboration with a Hartford partner organization, faculty fellow, and the Action Lab Director.

Traffic Safety Project (with Center for Latino Progress & CT Injury Prevention Center): Hartford has a high rate of road crashes and crashes with injuries, and we need to find ways to make our roads safer. In this project, students will learn how to plan and conduct observations of traffic in intersections, analyze the data that they collect, and make specific recommendations to reduce the number and severity of crashes.

Food Stories Project (with CT Food System Alliance): Complicated, arcane policy decisions significantly affect the food we eat, but they are difficult to understand. In this project, students will learn about the state-specific policies that shape our food system, and complete a digital storytelling project that uses personal narratives about food – “food stories” – to illustrate the importance of the policies that shape how and what we eat.

Opportunity Youth Project (with Capital Workforce Partners): In Hartford, there are 6,000 youth between the ages of 16-24 who are neither in school nor working. In this project students will learn about the many agencies that serve these youth and work to develop a comprehensive data repository including data from 15-20 organizations that currently do not report data to the Hartford Opportunity Youth Collaborative. In addition to collecting and analyzing the data to better understand Hartford’s Opportunity Youth, the students will design a survey to find out how the data can be useful to the many organizations that work with these youth.

Home Ownership Project (with Breakfast Lunch & Dinner): The homeownership rate in Hartford hovers around 23%. Many low income Hartford residents, especially people of color, have difficulty accessing financing that would allow them to build equity through real estate investment. In this project, students would research the programs that currently exist to encourage home ownership in the city, and investigate the real estate financing landscape to determine what gaps exist. Ultimately, students will answer the question “How do we develop tools to build equity in real estate for low wage earners in Hartford, specifically people of color?”

Sustainable Food Project (with City of Hartford): The Hartford Office of Sustainability is interested in promoting local food to Hartford residents. In this project, students would learn about local food sources and compare the carbon emissions and costs associated with local vs. non-local food. Students will create an index of local food sources and create marketing materials that promote local foods to residents.

15 Dollar Project (with Immanuel Congregational Church, UCC Hartford): Students will learn about the \$15 wage movement and explanations for why some employers in low-wage industries pay \$15 starting wages. Then, working with Immanuel Congregational Church, students will identify employers in Hartford that choose to pay \$15 an hour, even in low-wage industries, collecting testimonials and creating a website to tell their stories.

Apply online and list your preferences: <http://action-lab.org>