What is Praxis?
Praxis comes from the Greek word, “to practice”. Aristotle said it this way, “For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them!” PRAXIS is an opportunity for you, a student, to earn classroom credit while serving in the Rapid City community. You “learn by doing” and by reflecting on your experience.

You will work cooperatively with faculty in specified classes to provide needed service in a variety of social service agencies and community development sites.

You will learn about the great needs in our community while acting to address those needs. And as you encounter human need, you realize that your involvement and commitment can make a difference in the life of another person and in the life of the community.

During the course of this hands-on, practical experience, the PRAXIS Project provides for creative reflection on the personal and academic meaning of your service-learning project.

Requirements of Praxis Program:
1. You must volunteer a minimum of 15 hours. Orientation time does not count toward the 15 hours. A limited number of instructors and agencies require more than 15 hours. If this applies to you, you must fulfill their minimum to receive academic credit for taking part in PRAXIS.

2. You are also required to attend a 1 hour Introductory Meeting, and a 1 hour reflection meeting. Both will be held at the United Campus Ministry building. See address above. If you have scheduling conflicts, contact Phillip ASAP. Dates and times for the meetings are:

   Reflection Meeting 1 - Tuesday, October 28, 2008 @ 5pm
                     Thursday, October 30, 2008 @ 11am

   Reflection Meeting 2 - Tuesday, December 2, 2008 @ 11am
                     Thursday, December 4, 2008 @ 5pm

Your professor will announce the location as the dates approach. Meetings will be on campus.

3. You will be required to write a two-page reflection paper regarding your volunteering experience. You will not be required to use sources, however, if you choose to do so, sources must be cited using the Chicago Manual of Style. Other specifics regarding the reflection paper:

   2 Pages in Length
   Single Spaced
   12 Point Times New Roman Font
   1 Inch Margins
   Cover Page
   Be sure to include your name, professor, and class section.
Both Katie and your professor will receive a copy of this reflection paper. Katie’s copy is due at the last reflection group meeting.

How Do I Enroll in Praxis?

Complete the following steps. You are not enrolled until all steps are completed.

1. Select the agency where you would like to serve from the listing. These agencies have agreed to participate in PRAXIS. Agencies not included on the list must be cleared by Katie and your professor. The list of agencies can be found online at www.ucm-sdsmt.org.

2. Call the contact person, or ask for the volunteer coordinator at the agency you have selected. Identify yourself as a PRAXIS student volunteer, and make your arrangements for an initial interview, orientation and placement. (Note: keep in mind that PRAXIS is not an internship, practicum, or similar field work placement—it is service-learning!!!). YOU MUST HAVE ARRANGED A PLACE TO VOLUNTEER BY OCT 3.

3. Fill out completely the PRAXIS enrollment form and turn in copies to both Katie and your professor by Friday, October 3, 2008. The enrollment form is available at www.ucm-sdsmt.org. Katie’s office address is listed above. You may drop paperwork in the mail slot if the office is closed.

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

If you have an emergency, it is your responsibility to let Katie know as soon as possible. Other circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis and ONLY IF YOU CONTACT KATIE AHEAD OF TIME. I will be as flexible as possible, but the agencies you work with will need you to be on time and reliable. I expect the same.