

Experiential Learning

Policy Category:	Registration, Progression, Graduation
Subject:	Experiential Learning
Subsections:	Principles of Experiential Learning: Off-Campus Placements
Approving Authority:	Senate
Responsible Committee:	Senate Committee on Academic Policy
Related Procedures:	*
Officer(s) Responsible for Procedures:	*
Related Policies:	*
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Experiential learning (EL) is an approach that educators use to intentionally connect learners with practical experiences that include guided reflection. EL allows learners to: increase and apply disciplinary knowledge, develop transferable skills, clarify

2. The experience is designed to strengthen students' transferable skills, career competencies, and citizenship.

Experiential Learning

Independent study abroad	A program of study that enables students to register and study at a host institution with credit transferred back to the home institution. Program duration is one or two terms, a summer or short-term study period.
Industry project	A course that involves students working with an external partner on a specific project to propose strategies that address an organizational challenge or idea (e.g., consulting project).
Internship (long-term)	A supervised, paid, full-time work experience extending beyond a single academic term.
Internship (short-term)	A supervised work experience during a single academic term. May be paid or unpaid.
Lab	A distinct course component that includes the self-directed hands-on application of course concepts in a controlled setting.
Practicum (or Placement)	A mandatory, supervised experience in a discipline in which practice-based experience may be required for professional licensure or certification.
Research/Scholarly Creation	A supervised/mentored project extending over a term or short-term study period, during which the student engages in original research or scholarly creation.
Simulation	A learning exercise that mimics/simulates a real-world process or system (e.g., Faculty of Social Science model UN, School of Nursing Clinical Skills Lab, Faculty of Law moot court).

Co-Curricular (Non-Credit) Experiential Learning Opportunities

In order to be experiential learning, the activity must meet all EL principles:

**Career
preparation/Professional
development**

Experiential Learning

On-campus work experience	Paid work experiences offered by a Faculty or administrative unit.
Research assistantships	Paid work experiences offered by the university through which students carry out supervised research-related duties.
Student clubs and associations	Approved or recognized student-led groups based on a shared interest or goal (e.g., Autism Awareness Western, Athletic Clubs).
Student government	Representative bodies of elected students who advocate for constituents, provide leadership and service, facilitate programs, and may potentially oversee student fees (e.g. University Student's Council, Society of Graduate Students, Faculty Councils, Residents' Council).
Student leadership	University-sanctioned opportunities for students to develop their skills while contributing to the Western community (e.g., Orientation Soph, Residence Staff, Leadership & Academic Mentorship Program).
Teaching assistantships	Paid work experiences offered by the university through which graduate students carry out supervised teaching-related duties.
Volunteerism	Students participate in universit BT /TT0 1 Tf -0.001 1 (t)1.9 (5

who fail to meet the requirements of the host institution, or whose performance is judged to be unsatisfactory, or whose behaviour places the host institution or its patients or clients at risk, will be reported to the Dean of the student's Faculty. The Dean or his/her designate, on the recommendation of the Department or School concerned, may suspend the student's placement, withdraw the student from the placement, or take such other action as may be warranted.