BenXL
Center for EXperiential Learning
Lisa Haas, Ed.D.
Tell me, and I’ll forget.
Show me, and I may not remember.
Involve me, and I’ll understand.

~Native American Proverb
Contact Information

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Experiential Education

“Experiential education is a philosophy that informs many methodologies in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills, clarify values, and develop people's capacity to contribute to their communities.” (AEE, 2016)

Essentially, it allows a student to test and apply theory in an environment that is relevant to them.
Experiential Opportunity

- Community Partners
- Students
- Faculty
Examples of Experiences

- Internships (credit and non-credit)
- Service learning
- Education abroad
- International programs
- Research
- Community service
- Some course projects

- Civic and community engagement
- Apprenticeships
- Clinical Experiences
- Co-op
- Fellowships
- Field work
- Practicum
- Student teaching
Student Benefits

• Students learn by doing and are more engaged
• Students have more depth of the subject matter than in-class activities alone
• Students can increase their critical thinking skills and can apply them to complex situations
Faculty Benefits

- Students are more engaged
- Typically higher student retention
- Students are more prepared to participate
- Accelerate learning
What You Can Do

• Integrate experiential learning
• Create systematic reflection opportunities
• Encourage students to participate in credit and non-credit experiential learning opportunities
• Share information about community partners
I am Here to Help!

Brainstorming

Data analysis

Design activities

Find activities or partners

Assessment techniques
Main Take Aways

1. Experiential education engages students outside of the classroom
2. Students learn by participating and reflecting
3. You can help by integrating experiences and connecting to community partners
4. Encourage students to take advantage of experiential education
5. BenXL is here to collaborate with you
“We do not learn from experience, we learn from reflecting on experience”

- John Dewey