

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

The Experiential Learning requirement engages students in the first-hand discovery of knowledge through observation and participation in activities, most often in field-based settings outside the classroom. This inductive process of “learning by doing and reflecting” is supported by theory-based information. In these courses, students compare and analyze issues, problems, and ideas through the lenses of their own personal experiences and evolving intellectual worldview.

Experiential Learning may take place in a regularly scheduled course, an approved internship, a Study Abroad program¹, or in an independent study approved on a case-by-case basis (utilizing the proper Independent Study Approval Form). All such courses may be offered in the student’s major and may count for both major field and Liberal Studies requirements. When more than four credit hours are earned from such an experience – for example, an eight-hour internship – four hours may be counted toward Liberal Studies requirements and four hours toward major program requirements. Experiential Learning is typically taken in the junior year as major field or other foundational knowledge is essential to ensure a successful outcome.

Forms of Experiential Learning

Study Abroad

Study Abroad programs emphasize social, political, historical and cultural understanding through a total immersion into the life and culture of a foreign country. Study trips abroad range in duration from ten days to a full academic year.

¹ Students who participate in non-DPU study abroad programs for transfer credit should refer to the LSP Guidelines for transfer students (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/student-handbooks/undergraduate/undergraduate-academic-policies/liberal-studies-substitutions/>).

Domestic Study

For students interested in diverse populations and locations outside Chicago yet within the United States, domestic study courses offer students the opportunity to pursue such inquiry.

Community-Based Service Learning

Community-based Service Learning courses provide students with the opportunity to work with a community organization or agency and to reflect upon what they have learned through this service in class discussions. Opportunities are available through the Steans Center for Community-Based Service Learning.

Internships

Internship courses offer students the opportunity to gain real world experience in hiring, employment, communication, and the culture of businesses or organizations. Students who apply and receive internship opportunities through the Career and Life Design department register for CLD 250. In addition, some Colleges and departments offer 200-level and 300-level internships that satisfy the experiential learning requirement.

Individual or Group Research Projects

These research projects involve extensive field or laboratory work. The projects are supervised, evaluated and graded by a faculty member.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Apply particular concepts from readings, lectures, etc. to an analysis of lived experiences in the settings provided by the course.
- Use the experiences provided by the course to construct and articulate the impact of their experience on their understanding of course content.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ethics appropriate to the student’s experiential placement.
- Synthesize and articulate how the ideas and experiences provided by the course might inform their personal, academic, and/or professional pursuits.

Courses

Below please find examples of courses previously offered for Experiential Learning. For information on current offerings, please consult Campus Connection.

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Accounting		
ACC 393	INTERNSHIP IN ACCOUNTANCY	4
American Studies		
AMS 392	INTERNSHIP	4
Animation		
ANI 380	ANIMATION PROJECT BLUELIGHT	4
The Art School		
ART 291	MURAL PAINTING	4
ART 292	COMMUNITY VIDEO PRODUCTION	4
ART 348	GRAPHIC ART IN THE PUBLIC REALM	4
ART 382	STUDENTS TEACHING ART IN THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM	4
ART 383	SERVICE LEARNING IN THE ARTS INTERNSHIP	4
Biology		
BIO 302	STUDENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE	4
BIO 303	INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH	4
BIO 318	FIELD STUDIES IN MARINE AND ESTUARINE BIOLOGY	4
BIO 397	MENTORED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE IN BIOLOGY	2-4
Career and Life Design		
CLD 250	NAVIGATING THE WORKPLACE	4
Catholic Studies		
CTH 229	CATHOLICISM AS A SPIRITUAL PATH	4
CTH 282	GOD, JUSTICE AND REDEMPTIVE ACTION	4
CTH 341	LIBERATION THEOLOGY: THEORY AND PRACTICE	4
Chemistry		
CHE 392	INTERNSHIP	4
CHE 397	RESEARCH	4
Commerce		
IB 350	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SEMINAR	4
Communication Studies		

CMNS 205	COMMUNICATION, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY	4	HST 244	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CHICAGO HISTORIES: BACK OF THE YARDS	4
CMN 394	MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR COMMUNICATION INTERNSHIP	4	HST 300	NEWBERRY LIBRARY SEMINAR	4.5
CMN 395	COMMUNICATION INTERNSHIP SPECIAL TOPICS	4	HST 382	CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM EXPERIENCE	4
CMN 398	STUDY ABROAD	4	HST 391	DOING LOCAL AND COMMUNITY HISTORY	4
Community Service Studies			HST 392	PUBLIC HISTORY INTERNSHIP	4
CSS 201	CRITICAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	4	History of Art and Architecture		
CSS 300	INTRODUCTION TO NON-PROFIT MANAGEMENT	4	HAA 394	MUSEUM STUDIES INTERNSHIP	4
CSS 310	RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PRISON	4	Health Science		
CSS 395	COMMUNITY INTERNSHIP	4	HLTH 346	ENVIRONMENTAL OUTREACH THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	4
Computer Graphics and Animation			HLTH 397	MENTORED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES	2-4
GPH 360	MODELING SPACES	4	Hospitality Leadership <small>Students in this major must take HSP 303 and HSP 304.</small>		
Computer Science			HSP 303	HOSPITALITY INTERNSHIP I	2
CSC 379	TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS IN URBAN SCHOOLS	4	HSP 304	HOSPITALITY INTERNSHIP II	2
Criminology			Information Technology		
CRIM 398	INTERNSHIP	4	IT 300	RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	4
Cyber-Physical Systems Engineering			IT 394	SOFTWARE PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY CLIENTS I	4
CSE 393	CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING PRACTICUM I	4	IT 398	TOPICS IN GLOBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	4
Economics			International Studies		
ECO 393	INTERNSHIP IN APPLIED ECONOMICS	4	INT 389	INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT	4
Education			Interdisciplinary Studies		
TCH 320	EXPLORING TEACHING IN THE URBAN HIGH SCHOOL	4	ISP 392	INTERNSHIP	2
English			Latin American and Latino Studies		
ENG 378	LITERATURE AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT	4	LST 303	THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER. PEOPLE, RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENTAL WASTE, TECHNOLOGY	4
ENG 392	INTERNSHIP	4	LST 306	LATINO COMMUNITIES IN CHICAGO	4
ENG 397	NEWBERRY LIBRARY SEMINAR	4	LST 307	GROWING UP LATINO/LATINA IN THE U.S.	4
Environmental Science			LST 308	MOTHERHOOD IN LATINO COMMUNITIES	4
ENV 235	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: THEORY AND PRACTICE	4	LST 309	SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT AND LATINO FAMILIES	4
ENV 245	URBAN AND COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE	4	Liberal Studies		
ENV 361	RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	4	LSP 301	HUMANITIESX: TOPICS IN THE EXPERIENTIAL HUMANITIES	4
Finance			Management		
FIN 205	LEARNING AND TEACHING FINANCIAL LITERACY	4	MGT 393	MANAGEMENT INTERNSHIP	4
FIN 324	BANKING & CREDIT ANALYSIS	4	Marketing		
FIN 393	FINANCE INTERNSHIP	4	MKT 393	MARKETING INTERNSHIP	4
Geography			Mathematics		
GEO 133	URBAN GEOGRAPHY - EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	4	MAT 390	MATHEMATICS READING AND RESEARCH	4
GEO 211	BIOGEOGRAPHY	4	MAT 397	MATHEMATICAL PEDAGOGY: THEORY & PRACTICE	4
GEO 398	INTERNSHIP	1-6	Music		
Graphic Design			MUS 208	COMMUNITY AUDIO ART PRODUCTION	4
GD 380	STRATEGY AND DESIGN WITH COMMUNITY CLIENT	4	Neuroscience		
History			NEU 397	RESEARCH EXPERIENCE IN NEUROSCIENCE	4
Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies					

PAX 200	COMMUNITIES WORKING FOR SUSTAINABLE JUSTICE AND PEACE: SERVICE IN CHICAGO AND THE U.S.	4	SPN 126	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH III: SERVICE LEARNING	4
PAX 303	BORDER MATTERS: LITERATURE & CULTURE IN THE LATINO/A BORDERLANDS	4	SPN 334	SPANISH TRANSLATION III: ADVANCED TRANSLATION AND PRACTICE	4
PAX 331	LIBERATION THEOLOGY	4	SPN 391	SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF HERITAGE LANGUAGE LITERACY	4
Philosophy			SPN 393	LATINO MEDIA AND DIGITAL CULTURE LITERACY	4
PHL 250	PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL CHANGE	4	SPN 394	LATINO CULTURAL LITERACY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	4
Physics			Study Abroad		
PHY 380	EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS I	4	<i>For additional information, please consult the Study Abroad Website.</i>		
PHY 398	READING AND RESEARCH	4	User Experience Design		
Political Science			UXD 394	USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN PROJECTS (FORMERLY ISM 394)	4
PSC 281	MODEL UN	4	Women's and Gender Studies		
PSC 282	POLITICAL ACTION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	4	WGS 392	INTERNSHIP	4
PSC 284	MOCK TRIAL: CIVIL LAW	4	Writing, Rhetoric, and Discourse		
PSC 285	MOCK TRIAL: CRIMINAL LAW	4	WRD 371	MENTORING YOUTH IN COMMUNITY WRITING GROUPS	4
PSC 286	CAMPAIGNS AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT	4	WRD 372	DIGITAL STORYTELLING	4
PSC 392	INTERNSHIP	4	WRD 376	FIELDWORK IN ARTS WRITING	4
Psychology			WRD 377	WRITING AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT	4
PSY 305	PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	4	WRD 378	TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE IN CHICAGO	4
PSY 306	SERVICE LEARNING	4	WRD 395	WRITING CENTER THEORY & PEDAGOGY	4
PSY 311	CONNECTING WITH YOUTH THROUGH RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, AND SERVICE: QUARTER 2	4	WRD 398	INTERNSHIP	4
PSY 359	FIELD WORK IN COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND ACTION	4			
PSY 369	ADVANCED LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT	4			
PSY 395	FIELD WORK/INTERNSHIP	4			
PSY 397	EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING/PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH	4			
Public Policy Studies					
PPS 251	URBAN POVERTY	4			
PPS 398	INTERNSHIP	4			
Religious Studies					
REL 259	RELIGION AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT	4			
REL 284	CATHOLICISM AS A SPIRITUAL PATH	4			
REL 351	LIBERATION THEOLOGY	4			
REL 392	FOREIGN STUDY IN RELIGION	4			
REL 393	INTERNSHIP IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES	4			
School of Continuing Professional Studies					
SNC 186	SPIRITUALITY AND HOMELESSNESS	4			
SNC 223	ACTIVE CITIZENS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY, WORKPLACE WORLD	4			
SNC 306	TRAVEL AND LEARN IN BOSTON: EXPLORING ITS ARTS AND HISTORY	4			
Sociology					
SOC 394	COMMUNITY BASED SOCIOLOGY	4			
SOC 398	INTERNSHIP	4			
Spanish					
SPN 124	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I: SERVICE LEARNING	4			
SPN 125	INTERMEDIATE SPANISH II: SERVICE LEARNING	4			