Criteria for Experiential & Service Learning

At the University of Regina, Experiential Learning (EL) and Service Learning (SL) occur within the curriculum and in co-curricular settings. EL/SL must meet each of the following criteria:



Intentional | Is this part of a pre-planned experience within a course, program, co-curricular experience, or community-based initiative?

Embedded | Is this experience directly connected to the learning outcomes of a course? If not, is the experience directly connected to the mission, vision, or goal statements of the group, centre, office, or organization hosting the experience?

Formal | Is the experience occurring in formal work, practice, campus, virtual or community-based settings, with approval?

Relevant & Meaningful | Is the experience relevant to the students' intellectual, personal, and professional growth and promotes the building of meaningful relationships? Does the experience give opportunities for relevant and meaningful self-directed learning, role-modelling, collaborative learning and/or sharing of knowledge?

Integrated | Is the experience part of an experiential or service learning course or program?

Reflective | Does the experience ensure that students have opportunities to process the experience and critically reflect on what was learned, how the students' skills have grown, and what might happen next as a result of this experience?



Experiential Learning Typologies

The ten types of EL identified below are integrated within the curriculum, intentionally designed to address specific outcomes in co-curricular settings and/or situated within a workplace.

Curricular Experiential Learning

Any project a student undertakes as part of their course credit which requires a student apply both disciplinary knowledge and purposeful critical analysis in order to achieve credit for academic courses.

Co-operative Education & Internships

Alternating or straight work terms of practical, career-related, paid work, giving you total of 12 to 16 month's work experience upon completion. Co-op is done through 4 or 8 month terms and students are able to work for two, three or sometimes even four different employers over the course of their Co-op program. Internships provide longer continuous work duration of 12 or 16 month periods, and most often the student is working for one employer throughout.

Creative Works

Creative expression requiring intense effort and composition of a final, presented product. Creative works may also include selforganized paid performances, non-courserelated rehearsals and music or theatre practices.

Program-Based Experience

Any unpaid program-based activities a student takes part in for academic credit or recognition to better understand and practice concepts and competencies related to their field of study.

Service Learning

Typically un-paid, service with both prelearning (either through classroom learning or through CESL student training) and critical reflection to enrich students' learning experiences and to strengthen communities. In practice, students work in partnership with community-based organization to apply their discipline specific knowledge and lived experiences to address identified community needs or broader issues.

Entrepreneurship

The series of activities required at the early stages of developing a business start-up. This may include organizing work settings and resources, identifying and engaging in mentorship, applying for or requesting funding, and engaging in community or business consultation.



Community or Industry Project

Projects conducted by a student under faculty, guided and/or co-created through collaboration with a community partner and faculty researcher. This type of learning allows students to apply discipline-specific concepts to address community or industry challenges, using their academic learning to identify challenges, potential solutions, and new directions for growth in real-world settings.

Public Conference or Presentation

Attending and/or engaging at a conference where the student is presenting original research or analysis individually or as part of a group. This includes conferences which require a presentation of ideas to other professionals in the field.

Project-Based

Experiential opportunities for students that require they use both their technical skills and discipline specific knowledge alongside critical thinking to demonstrate their understanding of or propose a solution to a problem or need.

Work Experience

Paid experiences on or off-campus that have clearly defined duties that allow students to reflect on the work's relation to their academic learning.

