EVOLUTION OF THE COLLEGE CLASSROOM: STRATEGIC INTEGRATION OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

August 4, 2021

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Agenda

1. What Is Experiential Learning?
2. Benefits of Experiential Learning
3. Types of Experiential Learning
4. Designing, Implementing, and Evaluating Experiential Learning in Your Class
5. Q & A
What is Experiential Learning?

“A process which a learner constructs knowledge, skill, and value from direct experience.” (Association for Experiential Education)

i.e. Learning By Doing
Traditional Learning vs. Experiential Learning

**Traditional**
- **Faculty is transmitter**
- **Learner is a receptor**
- **Knowledge based**

**Experiential**
- **Faculty is a facilitator**
- **Learner is an initiator**
- **Skills based**
Why is Experiential Learning Important?

- Creates deep and lasting learning by connecting theory to practice
- Students’ main motivator was getting a job and expect colleges will provide more real-world work experience
- Develops transferable & marketable skills
- Employers believe requiring students to complete significant experiential learning experience would improve quality of preparation for careers
- Strengthens links between Schools, Employers, Alumni, and Community
Types of Experiential Learning

• Problem Based
  • May or may not be a real-world situation
  • Tends to be shorter in duration
  • Does not require client or community participation

• Project Based
  • Starts with a real-world problem
  • Collaboration with multiple stakeholders (Clients, Community, Faculty, Mentors, and/or Peers)
  • Present findings and final product to an audience
  • Tends to be longer in duration (7-16 weeks)

• Placement Based

Source: https://teachingcommons.unt.edu/teaching-essentials/engaged-learning/problem-based-learning-vs-project-based-learning
# Types of Experiential Learning

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<th>Within &amp; Beyond</th>
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Approximate Real World

Source: [https://learning.northeastern.edu/introduction-to-experiential-learning/](https://learning.northeastern.edu/introduction-to-experiential-learning/)
4 Steps to Designing, Implementing, & Evaluating Experiential Learning

**Assess**
- Analyze learner population
- Identify appropriate activities
- Determine logistics & tradeoffs

**Prepare**
- Create clear guidelines & structure
- Secure resources
- Define assessment criteria

**Facilitate**
- Prepare students & set ground rules
- Provide process tools
- Perform regular check-ins & deliver feedback

**Evaluate**
- Enhance learning outcomes
- Make adjustments
- Monitor course evaluations
Resources

• Association for Experiential Education
  https://www.aee.org/

• National Society for Experiential Education
  https://www.nsee.org/

• The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning
  https://www.cael.org/

• International Consortium for Experiential Learning
  https://www.icel.org.uk
5-Part Webinar Series
July 14 – Aug. 11, Wed., Noon to 1pm

• Aug. 11: Running on Empty After the Pandemic: Managing Our Own Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing in the Year Ahead
QUESTIONS?

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