

## The Experiential Learning Requirement in the Connections Curriculum

In the Connections Curriculum, LO1 focuses on how students' co-curricular and academic experiences have shaped their personal, professional, and civic identities. One of the requirements in this part of the curriculum is that students will complete two approved experiential learning opportunities, and those could be from any of the following categories:

- Already-approved experiences
  - EXPR-100X: FIRE Week programs
  - EXPR-100S: Study away (national/international study, e.g., Washington Semester, Witt semesters abroad, etc.)
  - All internships (when the student registers for courses numbered 491 or 492 in a department)
  - Capstone courses within some majors (e.g., BUSN 460, PSYC 400, ENGL 404; not all capstones have been proposed to GEAC for LO1 and may not carry this designation)
  - All Honors Theses (courses numbered 499)
  - Civic Engagement (in addition to the CE requirement that all students must complete)
- EXPR-designated experiences requiring a proposal and approval by GEAC (zero-credit; pass/fail)
  - EXPR-100R: Mentored research (e.g., FYRA, opportunities in particular academic depts)
  - EXPR-100E: Employment (approved on-campus employment opportunities)
  - EXPR-100L: Leadership experiences (e.g., ambassador, team captain, R.A., etc.)
- Experiential learning-designated courses requiring a proposal and approval by GEAC

## Advising Students about Experiential Learning Requirements

Academic Advisors should discuss these requirements with advisees and how they can identify approved opportunities that align with their interests. Ideally, this conversation occurs early on so they can recognize and take advantage of opportunities of interest along the way. These kinds of opportunities also can help students explore possible academic and career interests, so they should not wait until their senior year to complete both. This is not a requirement that can be completed retroactively after the experience has taken place, as students must reflect on what they are learning and make connections to their other experiences at Witt while it is in progress. To find courses that are designated as experiential learning, students can do an advanced search in the Course Catalog on Self-Service and select LO1 under Course Type. To find existing approved EXPR opportunities, please visit <https://www.wittenberg.edu/experiential-learning>

## Proposing an Experience for Experiential Learning Credit

To help provide ample opportunities for all students, faculty and staff are encouraged to consider what kinds of experiences in their area/department/line of work could be proposed as a meaningful experience for students based on the list of categories above. The experience may be integrated into an existing or new course, or it could be a stand-alone, one-time or recurring offering. To qualify for course designation or as a stand-alone experience, there must be a minimum of 35 hours of direct engagement in the activity, plus at least three opportunities for students to meet with the faculty or staff member supervising the experience to discuss/reflect upon their experiences in a structured and substantive way over the course of the semester. The supervisor may choose to specify other requirements for the student as part of this experience. At the end, the supervisor must assign and collect a reflection from the student(s), as is done with all LO-designated courses and experiences in the Connections Curriculum.

To propose an EXPR 100, please complete the proposal form at <https://forms.office.com/r/RZacEZaKTP>

To propose a course for experiential learning designation, visit <https://forms.office.com/r/J51UwJ79hS>

## Questions about Experiential Learning Requirements or Proposals

Questions should be directed to Stefne Broz, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Student Success ([sbroz@wittenberg.edu](mailto:sbroz@wittenberg.edu))