

Experiential Learning?

Experiential Learning refers to, “Hands-on Learning”. Experiential Learning gives our students... **real-world experience for the 21st century.**

Experiential Learning serves as a bridge, connecting the work place, the classroom, and the community into a mutually reinforcing learning network. Our goal is to produce life-long learners, able to apply their skills in a continually-changing world.

Let’s say you’re auditioning for a band. You spent months practicing on your guitar and various other instruments and eventually you passed the test and got the gig. You put on a great show! Why? Not because you read every book on the planet about Music, but because you had experience. Sure, you picked up some tips, tricks, and theories along the way, but ultimately, you passed because you had **experience**. You can’t master the art music unless you actually play.

And that’s our view of how the world works. From Music, Driving, Flying, English, Accounting, Management, Criminal Justice, Social Work, etc.

In academia, this is called, “experiential learning,” and that’s our main focus at L.L.U.

At L.L.U. we’ve developed an 800-hour **real-world experience** internship program to give students hands on training and transfer credits for knowledge and experience you already have.

Why pay tuition for classes that teach you what you already know?

Metaphor: Let’s say you come to college thinking you’d like to become a teacher. At other schools, you’d complete the first two years of training before you go into a classroom. Then you realize you *don’t actually like teaching?*

At a lot of other schools, you’d need to start again from square one. At L.L.U., this doesn’t happen because all of your credits can be transferred to whatever program you want and you still graduate on time. No additional fees or repeating classes.

We have internships and we allow the transfer of credits from other schools intern programs. These credits can come from working at your family business, or somewhere on the other side of the globe. **All that is required is that you keep a journal of the work credits in your portfolio.**

Just because Experiential Learning is a hands-on learning model, that doesn’t mean it’s the only place you’ll find learning opportunities.

All L.L.U. faculty members are experiential learning experts, and they integrate hands-on learning into the classroom any chance they get. Most of the times our professors prefer not to use classrooms at all.

It's a regular occurrence for our professors to take their classes on field trips, holding classes at locations that are relevant to the subject being taught. Most of the courses in the L.L.U. school catalog focus on real-world hands-on experience. One such course is our Business and Entrepreneurship Programs a course in which students work together to manage their own for-profit microbusiness. Besides being a good way for students to make a few extra bucks. Many of business network partners wouldn't be able to do what they do without the help of their student employees.

Students' network with alumni during a series of Black tie networking events designed to help students achieve their career goals. Keynote speakers give Lectures on developing career plans, the job market, and various business opportunities that are available. We are building a reputation as a community engagement school. Our community based programs enhance leadership skills, and promote cooperation and teamwork.

Aside from everything we've just mentioned, there are other ways students can get credit for their valuable learning experience, such as Extracurricular Activities:

- Sports and Physical Activities
 - Playing sports in organized competition associations.
 - Doing sports for fun.
 - Participating in outdoor activities (Rock Climbing, Kayaking, etc.).
 - Taking lessons (Swimming, martial-arts, snowboarding, etc.).
 - Football, baseball, hockey, track, gymnastics, dance, lacrosse, swimming, soccer, skiing, cheerleading and so on.

- Cultural Activities
 - Writing or putting on a play.
 - Creating and exhibiting art works.
 - Creating and producing a show.
 - Producing a short film.
 - Participating in workshops (Writing, ceramics, Jewelry making, etc.).
 - Singing in a choir.

- Community Activities
 - Supporting organizations or humanitarian causes throughout the year.
 - Actively participating in a committee.
 - Visiting and participating in activities in retirement homes.
 - Being involved in the student radio station or student council.
 - community theater, event organizing, festival staff,
 - other activities that are organized through the community, not the school.

- Arts
 - theater, music, dance, painting
 - Photography, creative writing and other creative endeavors.
- Church Activities
 - community outreach, helping the elderly, event planning,
 - community suppers, church-sponsored music and athletic programs,
 - teaching or organizing for summer camps and retreats,
 - missionary work, and any other activity run through the church.
- Clubs
 - Chess club, mathletes, mock trial, debate, animé club,
 - role playing club, language clubs, film club, skateboarding club
 - diversity/minority groups and so on.
- Governance
 - Student government, student council, prom committee,
 - community youth board, advisory boards and so on.
- Hobbies
 - Collecting, rocketry, model railroads, collecting, blogging or quilting.
- Media
 - local television, school radio or television, yearbook staff, school newspaper,
 - literary journal, blogging and online journaling, local newspaper,
 - other work that leads to a television show, movie or publication (online or print).
- Military
 - ROTC, drill teams and related activities.
- Music
 - Chorus, band (marching, jazz, symphonic, concert), orchestra, ensembles, solo.
- Volunteer work
 - Key Club, Habitat for Humanity, tutoring and mentoring,
 - community fund-raising, Rotary, church outreach,
 - hospital work (candy striping), animal rescue, nursing home work,
 - poll worker, volunteer fire department, creating hiking trails,
 - Adopt-a-Highway, and any other work that helps the world and is not for pay.

At L.L.U. we think all of this hard work needs to be recognized, and that's why we've created the "College Credit Transfer Program".

This is a way to officially document all of your experience and add an addendum to your official college transcript, it documents all the skills you've picked up outside of the classroom, be it from a community service project, involvement in a club, etc.

By the time you're ready to graduate, you'll have worked with our career and curricular counselors enough times that you'll be able to showcase these skills during a job interview, when applying to graduate school, or whenever the occasion to sell yourself arises.

Each year, we award something very similar to a scholarship to high school students who excel at learning by doing. You'll need to have your guidance counselor or principal nominate you though, so be sure to look into it sooner rather than later.

What to Do Next

Now that you know more about experiential learning and our unique hands-on approach to learning enroll now and get the credit you deserve.

In these tough economic times, most organizations are struggling to work through the same challenges: increasing productivity, finding world-class talent, stepping up their marketing efforts, and cutting budgets.

L.L.U. can help your business—whether large or small—with many of these tasks. As an experiential, hands-on learning institution we specializes in a “learn by doing” approach to college education, which opens up a tremendous number of possibilities for businesses & non-profit organizations.

Working with us is mutually beneficial to both the College and your organization: you get the resources and expertise you need while, at the same time, providing the College, with its lifeblood: experiential education and real-world scenario opportunities for students and faculty.

These opportunities could come in the form of an internship, community service project, full- or part-time positions, or teambuilding exercises and activities.

Periods & Internships

Every L.L.U. student, regardless of their major, must complete an 800-hour internship. Our School relies on businesses across the world to provide these opportunities—**either paid or unpaid**—to our students.

During (December – February) or (May – August) we allow businesses to:

- Tap into the latest theoretical information about a particular field
- Receive new perspectives on old problems
- Have an extra set of hands available to work on projects
- Directly impact the education and lives of tomorrow’s industry leaders

You can expect all our students to show up with a willingness to be creative, an immense amount of energy, and an uncanny knack for creativity.

L.L.U. students are schooled in the underpinnings of the workplace, business communication, and professional ethics from day one. **When you host a student, you’ll be inviting a consummate professional to join your team.** Additionally, hosting a student intern is a great way to fill temporary or seasonal positions as well.

Host a student intern? Please connect LLU. Online at www.larryloveuniversity.org/contact_us