Work-based/Experiential Learning Examples

Service-Based Learning
WHAT IS IT?
The American Association of Community Colleges defines community learning as “the combination of community service and classroom instruction, with a focus on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility.” The National Service Learning Cooperative has defined service learning as “a teaching/learning method that connects meaningful community service experiences and academic learning, personal growth, and civic responsibility.” Service-based learning is an avenue for student to meet the needs of individuals or groups in the community while extending the work they have done in the classroom. Service-based learning identifies a need within the community and structures a project to meet that need.

Community-Based Learning
WHAT IS IT?
Community-based experiential learning is similar to service-based projects. Both types of projects may be carried out with public, non-profit agencies, civic, charitable, and governmental organizations. Both afford students the opportunity to contribute to society and enhance leadership and academic skills. Careful planning should take place if students are to reap the benefits of “giving back to their communities.” There should also be expected outcomes, careful record keeping, and a time debriefing and reflection. Community-based learning has been defined as “the broad set of teaching/learning strategies that enable youth and adults to learn what they want to learn from any segment of the community.” In the document, A Model for Restructuring Education for the 21st Century, several critical assumptions were made. Forming the foundation for community-based learning: Because it takes place beyond the classroom, community-based learning involves individuals other than teachers as part of the learning process. Students have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences and develop character traits such as empathy, personal values, self-confidence, social responsibility and a sense of caring for others.

Research-Based Learning
WHAT IS IT?
Research-based experiential learning combines the academic skills of research and writing with hands-on learning in a real-world context. To be classified as research-based, students should conduct research, design a format for the presentation of the research such as a written research paper or portfolio, and create a related project that has been defined, designed, and produced using knowledge gained during the research. A presentation component should also be included in research-based experiential learning.

Work-Related Experience
WHAT IS IT?
There are some experiential learning activities that do not “fit” the aforementioned categories. Students can certainly benefit from focused, well-planned job shadowing, field trips, and career days/career exploration events, but on the secondary level, experiential learning should become more “finely tuned” to each student’s career goals. Work-related experiences are often more general in nature.
WORK-BASED/EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

According to Policy 2510, experiential learning is a graduation requirement. “All students must participate in an experiential learning experience at some time in grades 9-12.” Experiential Learning is structured quality work-based, service-based, community-based, and/or research-based learning experiences. These experiences require students to demonstrate the personal qualities, skills, knowledge and understandings they need to be leaders in the 21st century. Quality senior projects are an example of structured experiential learning.

Students Name: ______________________________ ______________________________ ______________________________
LAST FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL

Hours Requested: _________ Today’s Date: ________________ ID No: ________________________

Date Experiential Learning Experience Completed: ________________________________

Please Circle the type of Experiential Learning Experience:

WORK-BASED LEARNING
Off-Site/Paid and Unpaid
1. Apprenticeship
2. Clinic- Health Occupations Clinical Experience
3. Cooperative Education
4. Internship
5. Supervised Career Technical Experience
6. Other: ______________________________________________________________________________

On-Site
1. School Based Enterprise
2. School Sponsored Enterprise
3. Entrepreneurship
4. Computer Simulation
5. Supervised Career Technical Experience
6. Other: ______________________________________________________________________________

COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING
1. Senior Project
2. Choral/Band Special Group Presentations
3. Science Students Environmental Study
4. School Club Service (Name of Club):_____________________________________________________
5. Other: ______________________________________________________________________________

SERVICE-BASED LEARNING
1. Volunteer at Senior Citizens Center
2. Local Food Bank
3. Multi-Cultural Awareness Project
4. School Club Service (Name of Club):_____________________________________________________
5. Other: ______________________________________________________________________________

RESEARCH-BASED LEARNING
1. Mural Production
2. Senior Project
3. Human Services Project
4. School Club Service (Name of Club):_____________________________________________________
5. Other: ______________________________________________________________________________
WORK-BASED/EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Student Application

Name________________________________________________ Phone________________________

Address_____________________________________________  Street or PO Box City State Zip

Parent/Guardian Name______________________________________________________________

Advisor/s Name__________________________________________________________________

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CATEGORY
[  ] Work-based Learning
[  ] Service-based Learning
[  ] Community-based Learning
[  ] Research-based Learning

Description of experiential learning:
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________
Student Signature

APPROVED

______________________________________________  Date
School Official

______________________________________________  Date
Parent/Guardian
WORK-BASED/EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Student Activity Log

Student’s Name__________________________________ Advisor_____________________

It is suggested that students verify their experiential learning hours using this “activity log.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th># OF HOURS WORKED</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES/WORK PERFORMED</th>
<th>SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR</th>
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