Experiential Learning Curriculum Design Chart

As you begin the process of planning your Experiential Learning (EL) curriculum, there are a number of factors to consider. Below is a list of questions that may help to generate ideas during the design process. A column is provided for responses. The EL Hub recommends that this chart be used together with the “Experiential Learning Logistical Planning Chart”.

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| **Question** | **Response** |
| Learning Outcomes |
| What is the purpose of the EL component and how does it support program or course learning objectives?  |  |
| What form of EL will best suit your learning objectives (internship, experiential learning project, individual vs group experience.)?  |  |
| Would it be beneficial to communicate with industry employers and associations to get their input on the content and intended outcomes they believe will best serve students beginning their professional careers? |  |
| Have you identified learning outcomes that also speak to transferable employability skills (professional communication, time management, organizational skills, professional politesse, etc.) |  |
| How will you reinforce learning objectives through assignments and activities?  |  |
| How will learning outcomes be communicated to students and host organizations? Who is responsible for this communication?  |  |
| Experiential Learning Curriculum Design |
| In what ways will you integrate theory and practice? How will the EL activity expand on and support the theory and research that is foundational to the program?  |  |
| What topics will you cover before the experience begins? |  |
| What reflection activities best suit the style of the course and the needs of your students? |  |
| What reflection activities will enable students to synthesize new knowledge and perspectives from the EL activity?  |  |
| What opportunities will there be for students to experiment with new knowledge and enhance their understanding?  |  |
| Evaluation |
| How will you assess the EL component? How will you assess and evaluate reflection pieces?  |  |
| Have you developed a rubric for the EL component? Have you developed a rubric to assess reflection? |  |
| If the course involves an employer partner, will the employer have a role to play in monitoring progress and providing evaluation? If so, what weight will be assigned to employer evaluation?  |  |
| If group work is involved how will work be assigned, monitored and evaluated?  |  |
| Resources |
| What resources are required to ensure a successful EL program (administrative oversight, student evaluation and monitoring, employer outreach, materials, debriefing time and rooms booked)? |  |
| Have you finalized approvals and scheduling with administrators and partners?  |  |
| What support/materials for students will be provided? For example: an internship manual to help students connect with their intended learning outcomes, develop workplace literacy, and make the most of their experience.  |  |
| If the course involves an internship where most of the student’s time is in the workplace, it may be important to have more frequent monitoring to ensure the students are coping. Has this been addressed?  |  |
| What support for host site supervisors will be provided? For example: a supervisor guide to ensure partner organizations are aware of their role in the process, provide tips for successful coaching and evaluation, and summarize risk management responsibilities.  |  |
| Are all the Faculty and Teaching Assistants involved in the course clear on learning outcomes and the details of their participation?  |  |
| If an employer is involved in evaluation, who monitors this and communicates with the partner? Over what time period? |  |
| Who will oversee the risk management & privacy components, and what information, support and resources will they need? For more details, see “EL Logistical Planning Chart” |  |
| Course Evaluation |
| What steps will you use to evaluate the success of the course and the achievement of intended learning outcomes?  |  |