Experiential Learning Design Accelerator

Call for Proposals: Funding to Support UA Experiential Learning Course Design or Redesign Projects

Building upon the vision of 100% Engagement, Academic Initiatives & Student Success has developed the Experiential Learning Design Accelerator. This effort invests in support for academic Colleges and departments who designate faculty members to redesign existing courses and create new courses that incorporate effective and sustainable experiential learning for undergraduate students. Participants in this interdisciplinary learning community will be supported with:

- Training in Design Thinking and creative problem-solving as it applies to design of undergraduate applied learning experiences;
- Instructional design support to create learning objects and activities that engage students in applying principles of Design Thinking and other effective creative problem solving strategies to unscripted problems facing an organization or community;
- Ongoing logistical support provided by Student Engagement & Career Development for developing and sustaining campus, community or employer partnerships that provide students opportunities to solve authentic problems within the course;
- Funding to the department to cover the cost of teaching the course in its first iteration (Fall 2019 or Spring 2020), including faculty buyout and/or teaching assistants and incidental expenses;
- A summer stipend of $6500 or a Fall course buyout (for Spring 2020 teaching) of participating faculty member to complete the course design phase of the project;
- An interdisciplinary, cross-campus faculty learning community;
- Support for promotion of the course broadly to increase enrollment among relevant student populations on campus, if appropriate;
- Support from faculty mentors who have successfully developed scholarship, including grant proposals, papers and presentations based in engaged learning pedagogy.

In particular, we encourage proposals that:

- Clearly and convincingly identify the potential of the disciplinary content of the course to catalyze innovative and responsive solutions to a particular authentic challenge facing civil society in today’s world and tomorrow’s future;
- Demonstrate intention and capacity to make sustained, authentic partnerships with community organizations or businesses central to the new or redesigned course experience;
- Articulate how the new or redesigned course(s) fit into department curricular strategy and the department’s commitment to providing experiential learning to its majors and others;
Support redesign of open enrollment courses in any department, courses that are part of interdisciplinary collaborations among departments, courses required in majors that do not currently have a significant required practical experience, and/or courses with large enrollments. In other words, demonstrate to the review committee there is a significant group of learners who will engage in experiential learning by participating in this course;

Project owner evidence of successful implementation of innovative assessments of student learning, documentation of curriculum innovations leading to improved learning; evidence of faculty teaching excellence.

Who can apply?
Faculty and academic professionals can apply if their assigned duties include teaching undergraduate students. Graduate Assistants are not eligible to apply.

Because participation in the Accelerator makes certain demands on faculty time that will impact the scheduling decisions of heads and directors, the application must be accompanied by a recommendation cover letter from a department head or director with a cc to the academic dean’s office.

Courses that have already been identified as 100% Engagement courses are eligible for redesign, as are courses that are not connected to the initiative.

How to apply?
Complete the online form identifying yourself and titling your project and attach:

- Cover Letter recommending this project for funding from Head or Director of the department. In addition to addressing support for the substance of the proposal, this letter should specify the department head’s commitment to offer the course, during the 2019-2020 academic year as proposed, if the proposed budget is funded. This letter and all attachments should be cc’d to the Dean or Associate Dean or other central administrator with responsibility for oversight of the department.

- Project Proposal of no more than five single spaced pages. In this proposal, please address the following:
  - Introduce the course. Describe the content, activities and intended outcomes of the course in its current iteration as well as its place within the department’s curriculum and enrollment strategy;
  - Describe the proposed redesign of course activities. Identify the specific authentic challenge that students will engage in solving and the skills that you intend for them to practice and develop through the experiential course activities;
  - State the status of your partnership with any external partners who have committed to participate in your plans in any way. If you have not yet identified an external partner, indicate the type of organization you are
honing to partner with and describe the steps you have taken thus far to engage any prospective partners;

- Share your experience working with instructional designers or faculty learning communities. What are your expectations for participation in the Experiential Learning Design Accelerator and what attributes or experiences do you hope to draw upon as a contributor to this community?

- **Budget indicating accurate costs of:**
  - 1) either summer 2019 salary (for courses offered Fall 19 or Spring 2020) or Fall 2019 course buyout (for courses offered Spring 2020 only) to free faculty time for redesign work;
  - 2) the expected cost of teaching the course, including desired TA or preceptorship support in addition to the cost to the department of the teaching and, if applicable
  - 3) expected incidental costs of offering the course in the new iteration (student transportation, facility rentals, materials or supplies needed, etc.).

**Funds for project expenses will flow to the finance office for the College, and the College must agree in turn to ensure the funding is managed to cover the activities described in the budget.** We recommend review of the budget by department and College finance personnel prior to submission.

- Current CV

- Letter from external partner(s) if one or more has been identified and committed to participate in the project. This letter should address details of the partner's interest, commitment and goals for participating in the project.

**How are the awards made?**

Funds will be allocated on a competitive basis. Funding will flow from SECD to the College to support the proposed budget. A review committee comprised of faculty, staff, and students will score proposals based upon the criteria.

**When are proposals due?**

All application materials must be submitted by **10 PM on February 1, 2019**. Please use this web form linked via our [website](https://career.arizona.edu/experiential-learning-design-accelerator). Selections will be determined by March 1, 2019 for courses enrolling in either Fall 2019 and/or Spring 2020.

**Questions?**

Please direct all inquiries to Annie Kurtin, Associate Director, Student Engagement at akurtin@email.arizona.edu or call (520) 621-1964.

[https://career.arizona.edu/experiential-learning-design-accelerator](https://career.arizona.edu/experiential-learning-design-accelerator)