



BULLDOG *experience*

ENGAGE • REFLECT • CREATE

Spring 2023 Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Town Hall

*“I hear and I forget; I see and I remember; I do and I understand.” –
Confucius, 450 BC*



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

Office of Bulldog Experience



What is *Bulldog Experience*?

An initiative that focuses on:

- Expanding the experiential learning activities offered at MSU;
- Increasing both faculty-created activities and co-curricular activities that **engage** students in experiential learning;
- Increasing the opportunities for students to engage in **reflection** in order to **create** new knowledge and apply it to their futures; and
- Providing students with an opportunity to certify their experiences as documented on a Comprehensive Learner Record, as well as earn Bulldog Recognition.



What is the goal of Bulldog Experience?

- Engage all MSU undergraduate students in experiential learning activities through both curricular and co-curricular opportunities.
- Upon completion of these activities, students will **reflect** on their experiences to demonstrate how their experiences transformed into new knowledge.



What is an experience?

- Any meaningful and beneficial activity or event that results from selected High-Impact Educational Practices (Kuh, 2008) completed by **MSU students** who are engaged in Experiential Learning

What is Experiential Learning at MSU?

“The process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience – Knowledge results from the combination of grasping and transforming the experience (Kolb, 1984).”



Curricular Experiential Learning High-Impact Practices at MSU

- First-Year Seminars and Experiences
- Diversity/Global Learning (Study Abroad)
- Service and Community-Based Learning
- Internships (and Co-Ops)
- Undergraduate Research
- Capstone Courses and Projects (could include Simulations)



Co-Curricular Experiential Learning Activities at MSU



- Student Organizations, Greek Life, & Residential Life Leadership Opportunities
- Athletic Teams & Affiliated Groups (Spirit, Band)
- Service through the Maroon Volunteer Center (not course affiliated)
- Student Competitions
- Student Employment
- Other Experiences



The Engagement Continuum

Participatory Engagements

- "Learn by doing"
- Authentic engagement outside of lecture
- Opportunity to gain new skills and/or knowledge
- Any number of hours
- No formal deliverable produced
- e.g. Attending International Fair or Fine Arts Performances

Initial Engagements

- "Learn by Doing"
- Authentic engagement outside of lecture that allows for the application of previously acquired skills and knowledge
- Can be less than 30 hours
- Some interaction with peers and others different than themselves
- Given the opportunity to reflect and integrate existing knowledge
- **Initial Reflection:** Describe & Apply
- e.g. Volunteer at T. K. Martin Center, Community-Engage Learning Assignment for a Specific Course

Culminating Engagements

- "Learn by DOING"
- Authentic engagement outside of the lecture that allows for the application of previously acquired skills and knowledge
- At least 30 hours
- Interaction and collaboration with peers and others different than themselves
- Given the opportunity to reflect and integrate existing knowledge
- **Culminating Reflection:** Analyze & Synthesize
- e.g. Internship, Study Abroad



Facilitating Reflection

- Redesigned FYE Course – Reflection Module, Opportunity to “Practice” Reflecting, Submission of Initial Reflection, Introduction to Comprehensive Learner Record
- New Course: EXL 4990 – Multiple Reflection Opportunities to Analyze and Synthesize Experiences across years; Comprehensive Learner Record; Final Culminating Reflection
- Submission of Reflections – a Platform available to all MSU Students will be used as a repository for all reflections related to EL Experiences





Benefits for Students

- Attainment of Career Competencies beyond the content knowledge of the major
- Better prepared for life after graduation
- Opportunity for creative application of what was learned in class
- Increased knowledge through reflection
- Experience with the process of Experiential Learning and how to create new knowledge
- Graduate with a certified Comprehensive Learner Record and opportunity to earn Bulldog Recognition



How can YOU get involved?

- **Give Us Your Feedback!**

- What's the best way to communicate with Students?
- What are other benefits?
- What are other experiences you've had while a Student?
- How can you help us spread the word about Bulldog Experience?

- **Engage in a Culminating Experience Before Graduation & Write a Culminating Reflection**

- Consider Applying to take EXL 4990 in Spring 2024
- Update your information to include your Experiences while a Student at Mississippi State



Bulldog Experience Steering Committee Administrative Team

Brent Fountain	Vice Provost
Tracey Baham	Assoc. Vice President and Accreditation Liaison
Rebecca Robichaux-Davis	Director, Bulldog Experience
Kayla Pineda	Associate Director
Jason Cory	QEP Coordinator



**Please visit the Bulldog Experience Website for More
Information & Updates:
www.qep.msstate.edu**

**Please send your feedback or requests to take EXL 4990 to
Dr. Robichaux-Davis
rrr102@msstate.edu**

Questions?

Thank you for joining us today!

