EXL Scholars Program

Critical Reflective Thinking

EXL (Experiential Learning)

- * Begins with a hands-on experience (practical application of course content or service learning)
- * Ends with a critical reflection



The Two Required SLOs for all EXL Courses

Students will:

- Develop an experience-based knowledge of their disciplines
- 2. Engage in systematic critical reflection

Value of Reflection

"We do not learn from experience... we learn from reflecting on experience."

— John Dewey

NSEE Eight Principles of Good Practice for All Experiential Learning Activities

4. Reflection: Reflection is the element that transforms simple experience to a learning experience. For knowledge to be discovered and internalized the learner must test assumptions and hypotheses about the outcomes of decisions and actions taken, then weigh the outcomes against past learning and future implications. This reflective process is integral to all phases of experiential learning, from identifying intention and choosing the experience, to considering preconceptions and observing how they change as the experience unfolds. Reflection is also an essential tool for adjusting the experience and measuring outcomes.

Connect to Learning Project

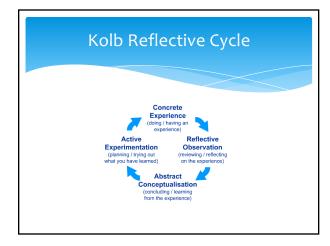
"Reflective learning is a process used to make sense of new experiences in relation to the individual, his or her environment, and a continuum of previous and subsequent experiences."

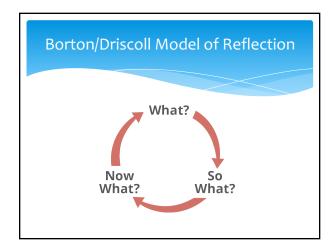
Goals of Reflection

- * Connects experiences in a course
- * Connects experiences across courses, semesters, and disciplines
- * Builds connection among academic, co-curricular, and lived experiences

Carol Rodgers Reflective Cycle SUNY Albany Presence in Experience Description of Experience Experience







Reflection Rubric

Students will engage in systematic reflection and demonstrate the ability to critically examine their experiences and to create connections between those experiences and disciplinary knowledge.

- * Engages in systematic reflection
- * Demonstrates ability to critically examine experiences
- * Creates connections between those experiences and disciplinary knowledge





Final EXL Program Reflection

Students review documents from their entire college education and write a final reflection that highlights the connections between experiences, what they have gained as a result of those experiences and how they will apply what they've learned to new situations in the future.

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Hame Knowledge Reflection Theory Service Additional Skills EXI, Program Reflection	
About Me I AM CY UE	ryGrace Wolkonowski jor: genizational Communication aduation Date: comber 10, 2016
Hallof My mame is Mary Cacol, and I will be graduating will Communication. I have a agrificate amount of experient money for operationations, as well as analyzing and devia- il. I have a passion for moving with people, organizing, pile goals include existing for a movement operation, pile youth moving which are some promotion of the people of the ear or organizational consultant.	e planning events and raising sing communication strategies. uning, and analyzing. My career

Sam	ple Program Reflection
Home Knowledge Reflect	tion Theory Service Additional Skills <u>EXL Program Reflection</u>
EXL Program Reflection	I have genuinely enjoyed the EXL courses I have taken while at Middle Tennessee State University. This program has taught me how to utilize knowledge from the dasoroom, and apply it to any work environment. I feel confident and prepared as I make the transition from classroom to workplace. Attached is an reflection essay further conveying my thoughts regarding the impact Experiential Learning has had on my learning experience and future.
	EXL Program Reflection Essav.docx

Sample Program Reflection

The Experiential Learning program has made my duration of studying at Middle Tennessee State University feel very worthwhile. I feel very prepared for the transition from classroom into the work force. The type of work EXL courses require develops not only skills that are extremely applicable to any real-life situation, but students are taught how to directly apply them in their environment of choice.

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I learned a great deal both academically and personally through the Experiential Learning program. Lknew I had a passion for working with people, but EXL helped me to confirm this passion. The majority of EXL courses I took were through the Organizational Communication major, which focuses on communication within an organization. I was able to perform service and accumulate work experience with various non-profit organizations in positions I would consider for my future. This allows me to see what aspects I enjoy and dislike in a non-profit setting, ultimately aiding in determining the path for my future.

Sample Program Reflection

These experiences have prepared me for my future in many ways. I now know what working for a non-profit looks and feels like, what it will require of me, and what types of skills are necessary to excel in that field. Taking concepts learned in a classroom setting, then directly applying them in a work environment has shown me how to adapt theoretical knowledge and turn it into action. I have already been presented with opportunities that have stemmed from work I completed because of this program. I am confident that those opportunities will only grow, and propel me to be successful in whatever career I choose.

Questions ???

Carol Swayze
Director, Experiential Learning
Carol.Swayze@mtsu.edu
615-494-7849
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