

## Senate Rules and Elections Committee

May 13, 2016

Present: Wood (Chair), Jones (Secretary), Bird-Pollan, Brown, Brion, Grossman, Mazur, McGillis,

Absent: Tagavi (explained, teaching conflict); Niespodziany

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### 3. Experiential Learning Activities

The Senate Council had previously tasked the SREC with examining some draft definitions of various types of experiential learning that had been prepared by a University committee and initially vetted by the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee. Senate Council Vice Chair and Chair-elect Katherine McCormick asked if the SREC could please draft for the Senate Council what a Senate Rule might look like that codifies those definitions. The SREC prepared the following draft codification for review and action by the Senate Council/Senate.

**A. 395 Independent Work or Independent Study.** If a department offers more than one such course, numbers lower than 395 shall be used.

~~**B. 396 Reserved for the University Experiential Education course.**~~

~~**C. 399 Departmental field based experiential education courses.** May be repeated to a total of 30 hours. To provide the opportunity for students with the approval of a faculty member and the department chairman or his/her designee to earn credit for work-study experience. The student must work with a faculty member to describe the nature of the experience, the work to be performed, accompanying learning experiences, appropriate course credit for the work, and criteria by which the student's work may be evaluated. This information must be written and filed in the departmental office and the Office for Experiential Education prior to the student's registration for the course. *Bulletin* descriptions of these courses shall include an explicit statement of the need for filling out a learning contract.~~

### B. Community Engagement and Other Experiential Learning Courses

For the purposes of experiential learning activities created and delivered from a unit faculty (SR 3.3.3.A), the following apply. Any experiential learning activity that is required for a certificate, degree or academic honor recorded on the transcript must be tracked by a Senate numbered course for zero or more credit hours.

**B1. Community Engagement** describes the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.

**B1.1 Community-Based Learning Experiences** are for-credit courses in which students apply, and thereby achieve greater mastery of, theoretical knowledge in real-world settings under the supervision of a faculty member.

**B1.2 Service-learning** is an integrative experience through which learners engage in thoughtfully organized actions in response to community identified assets and needs. Experiences are designed to be reciprocal exchanges of knowledge and resources accomplished through service and reflection. Learning outcomes promote academic and civic engagement and are focused on an equal balance between holistic learner development and community well-being. Service-learning can be credit bearing or non-credit bearing.

**B1.3 Outreach** is a focus on the application and provision of institutional resources for community use. Outreach can be formal or informal educational approaches to deliver university (research-based) information to the people and communities.

**B1.4 Civic Engagement** is working to make a difference in the civic life (both political and non-political processes) of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference.

## **B2. 396 Reserved for the University Experiential Education course.**

**B3. 399 Departmental field based experiential education courses.** May be repeated to a total of 30 hours. To provide the opportunity for students with the approval of a faculty member and the department chairman--or his/her designee--to earn credit for work-study experience. The student must work with a faculty member to describe the nature of the experience, the work to be performed, accompanying learning experiences, appropriate course credit for the work, and criteria by which the student's work may be evaluated. This information must be written and filed in the departmental office and the Office for Experiential Education prior to the student's registration for the course. *Bulletin* descriptions of these courses shall include an explicit statement of the need for filling out a learning contract.