

Where Can I Get Experience?

Students often ask: “Where can I get experience?” The heart of this question is “how can I apply what I learn in the classroom to real-world challenges and environments?”

This is known as experiential learning – an opportunity to get involved, apply skills and knowledge, and reflect on those experiences. As a result, you **discover what you feel connected to, demonstrate your potential, and develop your own stories** about where you want to take your interests, skills, and values in the future.

What does Experiential Learning Look Like?

Experiential learning is simply about getting involved on campus and in the world around you. There are so many ways to do so. Explore a student organization. Get involved in undergraduate research, a job or internship, or a volunteer or service project. Or, experience new perspectives through international programs or global experiences.

Where Do I Begin?

You don't need to know where you want to end up to get started. As a Liberal Arts & Sciences student, you are already developing skills for critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, adaptability, communication, and lifelong learning. These skills open doors to numerous opportunities – even to future careers that do not yet exist today. **What are you interested in or curious about? Start there.**

Check out the next page of this handout for some on-campus resources or visit a Peer Mentor in the Lisnek LAS Hub for suggestions on next steps.

Want to Learn More?

Visit a Peer Mentor in the Lisnek LAS Hub

- » First floor of Lincoln Hall, Quad-side, Behind the marble staircase
- » Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- » Fall and Spring semesters, while classes are in session

las.illinois.edu/resources/hub
lashub-peermentors@illinois.edu



REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Involved@Illinois

Search organizations, events, and news to get engaged across the Illinois campus. illinois.campuslabs.com/engage

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES

Illinois Leadership Center

Provides a variety of training opportunities (e.g, I-Programs, workshops, a Leadership Minor) designed to help students learn and practice leadership skills. leadership.illinois.edu

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS / GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

LAS International Programs

Supports students with a variety of short-term and semester-length programs abroad, as well as virtual global experiences. las.illinois.edu/academics/international

JOBS & INTERNSHIPS

ATLAS Internship Program

Encourages LAS students to supplement their traditional course work with technology skills used in work situations. Placements are in university units and non-profits and startup companies. atlas.illinois.edu/internships

Handshake

Platform for connecting students to employment, experiential learning, and other opportunities across campus, in our community, and around the world. handshake.illinois.edu

Research Park

An innovation hub for technology commercialization that cultivates startups and increases capabilities for established companies here on the University of Illinois campus. researchpark.illinois.edu/work-here/careers

Virtual Job Board

Hosted by the Office of Financial Aid, this site provides postings for part-time on-campus employment for students. osfa.illinois.edu/types-of-aid/employment/virtual-job-board

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Cline Center for Advanced Social Research

Provides students with practical experience in data science research to impact complex social problems. clinecenter.illinois.edu/get-involved/students

Illinois Office of Undergraduate Research

Delivers a variety of programs and workshops to promote undergraduate participation in research across campus in all disciplines. undergradresearch.illinois.edu/index

Departmental Websites

Some academic departments list research opportunities for undergraduate students. Visit the link and choose your major. las.illinois.edu/research/students

VOLUNTEER, SERVICE LEARNING, & STUDENT CONSULTING GROUPS

Illinois Design Consulting

Provides students with real-world UI/UX projects and training originating from corporate clients and partners across campus. giesgroups.illinois.edu/idc/home

Office of Civic Life

(formerly Office of Volunteer Programs)

Assists students to explore and enhance civic identities through direct service, service-learning, charitable giving and philanthropy, community relationship building and organizing, voter engagement, advocacy, and activism. studentengagement.illinois.edu/civic-life

We CU

Matches Illinois students and courses with community service projects. wecu.illinois.edu