

## 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
- » Monday – Friday, 1:30 – 4:30 pm
- » Fall and Spring semesters, while classes are in session

[las.illinois.edu/resources/hub](https://las.illinois.edu/resources/hub)



### REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

#### **Involved@Illinois**

Search organizations, events, and news to get engaged across the Illinois campus. [illinois.campuslabs.com/engage](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/civic-life)

#### **We CU**

Matches Illinois students and courses with community service projects. [wecu.illinois.edu](https://wecu.illinois.edu)