EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING & CO-OP

UNIVERSITÉ BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

THE WILLIAMS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

IT'S OUR BUSINESS!

As a small liberal education university situated in Sherbrooke, Quebec, experiential learning is at the heart of what we do best here. From guest lectures to field trips to integrative projects to co-operative education, the Williams School of Business has experiential learning covered. By integrating multiple forms of experiential learning into our business courses, students gain hands-on, real world experiences while our partners benefit from an energizing exchange with our students on multiple levels.

Our partners are involved in three main types of experiential learning:

Classroom-focused
Community-focused
Company-focused

Join our students on an experiential learning journey!

CLASSROOM-FOCUSED

We believe that getting business people in the classroom is essential to giving our students a glimpse of the real-world. We look forward to having you share your experiences with our students.

How can you contribute?

GUEST LECTURE/PANEL/ROUND-TABLE

By being a guest lecturer, you can give students a glimpse of a real organization through the eyes of one of its stakeholders, you! Share your business experience from anywhere in the world while helping students link it back to the course-specific theories.

LIVE CASE STUDIES

Have a current business challenge that you are willing to share with our students? Students have the opportunity to hear about a real problem in all its complexity, then propose strategic recommendations before your eyes.

INTERVIEWS

Interviews are sometimes used by professors to have student take an in-depth look at a particular company or problem. Volunteer a small portion of time to sit one-on-one with our students and discuss their questions while the students link it back to theories in class.

COMMUNITY-FOCUSED

Being involved in the community and giving back is something that the Williams School of Business greatly values. Collaborating with non-profit and other community organizations allows for mutually beneficial outcomes; a real win-win. Organizations with limited resources receive high quality work from talented students, while students practice their skills while contributing to the advancement of a great cause.

APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Students are engaged in research that occurs primarily in organizations and can include consulting projects, design projects, or community-based research projects.

BUSINESS SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT COURSE

Students will provide consulting services to non-profit organizations based on the needs that are mutually determined by both the students and the organization. The student creates a needs analysis, provides strategic recommendations and a critical reflection of the learning that occurred.

BUSINESS-BASED COMMUNITY SERVICE

An excellent option for organizations with a small project and requires extra help. Business students are engaged in volunteer activities in an organized way with non-profit community organizations that are directly related to their field of study for at least 15 hours.

VOLUNTEERING

Students may also choose to volunteer their time and expertise to a variety of organizations, clubs or individuals in a scheduled fashion or on an ad-hoc basis.

COMPANY-FOCUSED

We can all agree that students learn best by doing and testing ideas first-hand. Work-integrated learning is, in our opinion, the optimal method of integrating theory and practice in a real-life setting. This is where company partners like you, are key to the learning process.

APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Students are engaged in research that occurs primarily in organizations and can include consulting projects; design projects; community-based research projects. In this particular case, students work in for-profit organizations on specific projects, predominantly with small and medium sized businesses.

BUSINESS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECT COURSE

Students will provide business-consulting services to for-profit organizations based on the needs that are mutually determined by both the students and the organization. The student creates a needs analysis, provides strategic recommendations and present their results to the company.

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

A program that alternates periods of academic study with periods of work experience in businesses, government, social services amongst others. Employers benefit from young, dynamic and motivated talent, Students have the opportunity to test the job market in a structured way.

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Co-operative Education Program remains the gold standard of experiential learning where universities and organizations partner in a meaningful way to share practical learning experiences with students. Why not take advantage of the motivated and bright students who become valuable members in your organization in our university's talent pool?

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Accounting

Finance

General Business

Global Management & Leadership

Marketing & Entrepreneurship

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Advantages of hiring a co-op student are clear:

- A personalized one-on-one employer service tailoring to your needs.
- Committed to finding the right student for the right job.
- Flexible posting dates.
- No rank and match system.
- Selective co-op program with GPA requirements.
- Tax credit (Quebec companies).

**Our students are predominantly available for summer work-terms across Canada (May-August).*

CO-OP

SUGGESTED TIMELINE

Mid January — Optimal time to post job offer

Mid February — Optimal time for interviews

Early May — Start work term

Late June — Midterm evaluation

Mid July — Potential site visit

Late August — Final employer evaluation

Late August — End of work term

Late September — Tax credit forms sent

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION CRITERIA

1. **Provide work related to field of study**
2. **Supervised Environment**
3. **Paid Work-Term**
4. **Minimum of 420 hours**

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING TESTIMONIALS

"Working with real organizations on projects not only solidified my decision to pursue a career in accounting, but allowed me to understand the real-life challenges faced by non-profit organizations. I am appreciative of these organizations taking the time to hear our strategic recommendations and feel like we are really making a difference."

- Anna Cutland, Business Student

"The co-op program allowed me to live my first Canadian work experience in a company that gave me lots of freedom in my work. To this day, I still feel great pride in the projects I completed during my placement! "

- Ahmad Hamdan, Computer Science Student

"Nothing can compare to hands-on learning when it comes to education, having the chance to work with real companies and deal with real business problems. That's exactly what my EL experiences in the WSB have allowed me to do. Through these experiences, I've become much more confident in my abilities and in myself as a person. "

- Catherine Laberge, Business Student

"The co-op program enabled me to solidify the theories we explored in the classroom. It was the catalyst that allowed me to connect the dots and grasp the functioning of a business. Not only was it an intellectually stimulating experience, but it led to the growth of my interpersonal skills. I can now say that I am more confident to tackle my first job."

-Yassine Nassiri, Business Student

"We were extremely impressed by the quality and professionalism in the students' work. We noticed how well they were able to grasp and understand the particularities that we face as an organization. Furthermore, they provided us with innovative ideas that we can start using immediately. What a wonderful experience!"

-Myriam Beaulé, Director, La Fondation québécoise du cancer

GET IN TOUCH

Charlene Marion
Coordinator of Experiential Learning

Williams School of Business
Phone: 819-822-9600 ext. 2242
Email: charlene.marion@ubishops.ca
Office: HAM 205B

Marlène Canuel
Co-op and Academic Advisor

Williams School of Business
Phone: 819-822-9600 ext. 2215
Email: marlene.canuel@ubishops.ca
Office: HAM 201

BUILD

Learn

CREATE

EXPLORE