Experiential Learning at Northwestern Michigan College (Faculty)

Experiential learning is the process of learning through experiences and reflection.

Learning that is considered “experiential” contains all of the following elements:

1. Reflection, critical analysis and synthesis.
2. Opportunities for students to take initiative, make decisions, and be accountable for the results.
3. Opportunities for students to engage intellectually, creatively, emotionally, socially or physically.
4. A designed learning experience that includes the possibility to learn from natural consequences, mistakes, and successes.

The experiences below + reflection + application = Experiential Learning.

Inside the Classroom
- Case Studies, Presentations, Papers
- Group work, Tests, Role-playing
- Projects, Practicums, Simulations
- Game playing, Peer instruction

Outside the Classroom
- Service learning, Field work, Clinicals
- Study abroad, Research, Volunteering
- Internships, Job shadowing, Field trips

Examples/Techniques
- Think-Pair-Share
- Turn and Talk
- Group Discussions
- Journaling
- Quickwrites
- Jigsaws
- Virtual Fieldtrips

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Northwestern Michigan College
Experiential Learning Institute

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