

ENGAGED LEARNING PROGRAM

Definition

“Engaged Learning” refers to activities in which students apply knowledge gained in educational settings beyond the classroom; delve further with independent scholarship and creative expression; broaden their horizons with study abroad or cross-cultural encounters; become problem solvers, leaders and team members in their communities; and prepare for professional and civic lives that make a difference. Rider’s students are required to complete at least two high-impact Engaged Learning Experiences that reflect the University’s strategic themes of leadership, ethics and social responsibility, and global and multicultural perspectives. Students are required to reflect upon how the experience impacted themselves and others in either a written short essay or in a structured group setting. These experiences will help students build bridges between their course of study and the world in which they live.

Requirements

All Rider University undergraduate students^{1,2} are required to earn a minimum of six points, spread across at least two Engaged Learning categories. The six categories of Engaged Learning are:

1. Leadership and Mentoring
2. Study Abroad and Cultural Exploration
3. Guided Research and Scholarship
4. Civic and Community Engagement
5. Internship, Co-Op, and Field Work
6. Arts, Media and Creativity

¹ Transfer students who bring fewer than 31 accepted credits to Rider are required to earn six (6) Engaged Learning points which must be spread across two or more Engaged Learning categories. Transfer students who bring 31 or more accepted credits to Rider are required to earn three (3) Engaged Learning points in any one or more categories.

² All NCAA Division I athletes will receive 3 Engaged Learning points each semester when the Director of Athletics submits the roster to the Registrar. Their remaining points will be completed from the approved list of Engaged Learning experiences or courses. Points must be spread across at least two Engaged Learning categories.

Earning Points

Academic courses

Credit bearing courses approved as Engaged Learning Experiences need not be submitted by students to earn points. Once a student completes a course that has been designated as Engaged Learning, points equal to the number of credits (up to a maximum of 3 points), will be automatically assigned by the Registrar’s Office. The Registrar’s Office will insert the course on the Engaged Learning Transcript. A full list of the eligible courses is available on the Engaged Learning Program (<https://www.rider.edu/academics/engaged-learning/approved-courses/>) webpage.

Experiences

When students engage in experiences that are not connected to academic courses, they must initiate the review and approval process themselves. Forms for student submissions of eligible experiences are available in BroncNation (<https://brncnation.rider.edu/>), the student engagement platform. Instructions for completing the forms, submission guidelines, and a list of many eligible experiences are available on the

Engaged Learning Program (<https://www.rider.edu/academics/engaged-learning/co-curricular-experiences/>) website.

Submitted experiences will be reviewed by designated approvers and, upon approval, will be reported to the Registrar by the end of each semester to be listed on the student’s Engaged Learning Transcript. For experiences not approved, students may appeal to their academic dean.

Contact

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