

APPENDIX I

HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

1. Example of the Experiential Learning Community of the first year.

“Economic Development, Social Progress, and Natural Environment”

Fall semester

The ELC taught by an environmental biologist, (Sciences), literature faculty (Humanities), and an economist (Social Sciences)

Enrollment 45

Prerequisites: Open to First Year Students

The course will introduce students to principles of economic analysis, history of American literature of late XIX and XX centuries, and fundamental concepts of ecology. Students will also have an opportunity to study issues of economic development and progress and their conflict and/or harmony with the natural environment. These issues and ideas will be used mainly for illustrative purposes.

Completing the course students will engage continually in writing and will complete 15 writing assignments. In addition students will complete two research projects in which they will demonstrate use of methods of quantities analysis introduced in this ELC. Completing the service-learning project, students will work for a selected group of agencies of social and urban development in Dayton Area. During the service-learning period, once a week, the faculty will conduct experiential learning seminars. Each student will present a report from the service-learning project and submit its final written version by the end of Spring semester.

Students may earn 5 semester credits in Economics, 5 semester credits in American Literature, 6 semester credits in Environmental Science, and 1 semester credit in Physical Education.

2. Examples of the Second/Third year Experiential Learning Communities may include:

a. **“Exploration of Light”**

Spring Semester

The ELC taught by visual arts faculty (Arts and Communication Media) and faculty physics (Sciences”).

Enrollment 30

Prerequisites: Open to Second Year Students

This Learning Community explores the Light and its use from the perspective of Physics and Visual Arts (Paint, Sculpture, and Architecture). This ELC will enable students to study and develop an understanding of laws of physics that explain phenomena of light, refraction, and alike and get acquainted to the scientific history of research in this area of science. In parallel learning process, students will be introduced to basic visual arts techniques that use light and light effects and will study use of light in the history of painting, sculpture, and architecture.

Students earn 4 credits in Physics and 4 credits in Visual Arts.

b. **“From Industrial Revolution to Information Society”**

Fall Semester

The course taught by a historian (Humanities), an economist (Social Sciences), and computer scientist (Sciences).

Enrollment 45

Prerequisites: Open to Third year Students

This Learning Community explores intellectual, social and political development of American Society since the Age of Enlightenment and American Revolution, through age of industrialism and Great Depression, to the times of Information and High Technology driven society. The ELC enables students to develop an understanding of methods of macroeconomic analysis and foundations and history of macro-economic policy.

Students earn 6 credits in History, 5 credits in economics and 5 credits in computer science.

c. **“War and Peace; Images and Realities”**

Fall Semester

The course taught by a political scientist (social sciences) and film and video faculty (Arts and Communication Media).

Enrollment 30

Prerequisite: Open to Third year Students

This Learning Community will explore issues of International Conflict and Peace as treated in theories of International Relations and contrast the findings of these theories with images of War and peace presented and documented in cinematography. This ELC will enable students to study and critically appraise variety of interpretations of the international conflict and peace processes and contrast these understandings with artistic images developed as a response to the human cost and misery resulting from these conflicts.

Students earn 4 credits in Political Science and 4 credits in Communications