

# RELEVANT EXPERIENTIAL AND APPLIED LEARNING (REAL)

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**REAL 300. Principles of Community-engaged Leadership. 3 Hours.**  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. This course will introduce the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to be a successful community-engaged leader in an interconnected, global society. Students will use an interdisciplinary lens to understand and analyze principles and practices of leadership, community engagement and global citizenship. They will also integrate academic and experiential learning through analyses of current events, a critical reflection and an individual digital presentation.

**REAL 301. Leadership Identity and Intercultural Competence. 3 Hours.**  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: REAL 300. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. This course will provide the opportunity for students to formulate and analyze various aspects of their own self-identity as a community-engaged leader and then to develop intercultural competencies to relate effectively to diverse others.

**REAL 310. Pathways to Experiential Learning. 1 Hour.**  
Semester course; 1 field experience hour. 1 credit. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. In this seminar students will verify and document their participation in experiential learning opportunities, including extended community service, undergraduate research projects, peer leadership and other noncredit experiences in order to receive academic credit for them toward the LLP certificate of completion. Students will also reflect on their experiential learning and produce an artifact for the LLP e-portfolio.

**REAL 399. Student-Directed Experience. 3 Hours.**  
Semester course; 0-3 independent study hours. 0-3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to students with at least sophomore standing with approval of the REAL office. This course supports student completion of a self-directed experiential learning project in one of the five REAL learning domains: academic discipline, skills and knowledge; professional identity and career preparation; community or civic identity; diversity and inclusion; and global knowledge. The student's satisfaction of the course requirements is determined by a VCU faculty/staff supervisor. In cases where the project engages an external partner (an employer or community organization, for example), an evaluation from that partner may also be administered to determine satisfaction of course requirements. Graded as pass/fail.

**REAL 400. Career Management. 1 Hour.**  
Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisite: REAL 300 and REAL 301. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. This course will develop students' career management competency, defined by the National Association of Colleges and Employers as: Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge and experiences relevant to the position desired and career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional growth. Students will learn to navigate and explore job options; understand and take the steps necessary to pursue opportunities; and understand how to self-advocate for opportunities in the workplace. The course will also comprehensively introduce the e-portfolio and allow students to begin to formulate the direction and beginnings of this culminating capstone project, to be completed during the subsequent course. Students will also continue to reflect on their self-identity and their experiential learning.

**REAL 401. Capstone Seminar. 1 Hour.**  
Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisite: REAL 300, REAL 301 and REAL 400. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. In this seminar students will integrate their learning into a comprehensive e-portfolio to showcase their signature experiential learning and present it at a public symposium. Students will also reflect critically on their entire living-learning program experience and highlight key moments and learning as a result of their participation.

**REAL 491. Special Topics in Leadership and Experiential Learning. 1-3 Hours.**  
Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for credit. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. Students will study and discuss advanced and contemporary material related to leadership practice and theory. Topics will vary by semester.

**REAL 492. Independent Study in Leadership and Experiential Learning. 1-3 Hours.**  
Semester course; 1-3 independent study hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for credit. Enrollment is restricted to students in the VCU Transform living-learning program. The course provides an opportunity for living and learning program students to learn more about a specific topic of interest that is not included among existing VCU course offerings. Study is conducted under the guidance of a VCU faculty mentor who assists the student in planning and implementing the course of study. The independent study topic should be selected in consultation with the student's academic adviser to ensure that the proposed course of study is relevant to the student's educational goals and VCU Transform. The faculty mentor must agree to be available to the student throughout the duration of the course.