



In response to faculty, employer, and student endorsement of experiential learning as the most useful element of student preparedness, Murray State University's current Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is Bring Learning to Life. The purpose of Bring Learning to Life is to improve experiential learning outcomes through the implementation of learning experiences in which students apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom in a real-world setting. Consistently, studies show that experiential learning is related to an increase in student engagement, retention, recruitment, academic success, and preparedness for further work or study in the discipline.

Each Murray State University academic program has identified an experience-rich activity (ERA) that could be service learning, undergraduate research, internships, study abroad, or an embedded course or co-curricular project. The identified experience-rich activity does not necessarily have to be one that is required of all students, but all students must have the opportunity to engage in the activity.

The designated experience-rich activity must meet the following criteria:

- Involve the application of knowledge and skills in a real-life setting, typically outside of the classroom, resulting in a final product.
- Involve a third party outside of the traditional faculty-student interaction. This third party should be able to provide feedback on the final product.
- Initiate with a reflection by students on their existing skills/knowledge and what they hope to gain by the experience.
- Conclude with a reflection by the student on the experience and feedback on the process.

The QEP is being implemented across campus:

- 100% of undergraduate programs are offering an experience-rich activity for students
- 63% of undergraduate students will participate in an ERA as a program requirement
- Of the ERAs offered:
 - 70.8% are a professional experience
 - 15.3% are a co-curricular experience
 - 9.7% are research activities
 - 2.8% are service learning
 - 1.4% are a study abroad experience

QUALITY
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For additional information on opportunities to Bring Learning to Life for students, please contact department chairs or any of the following involved individuals.

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