**Texas Woman’s University – Quality Enhancement Programs**

**2014-2015 QEP-designated courses**

**Criteria and Application**

**Application Deadline: Thursday, April 3, 2014**

**Notification of Selection: Friday, May 16, 2014**

**PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW**

QEP-designated courses are the foundational element of TWU’s Quality Enhancement Plan *Pioneering Pathways: Learn by Doing.* QEP-designated courses:

* ensure students earn course credit for experiential learning activities,
* establish a foundation of core courses from which to continuously expand experiential learning opportunities for students,
* align with the National Society for Experiential Education’s (NSEE) eight principles of good practice, and
* provide a manageable and sustainable means for assessment of QEP goals and student learning outcomes.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Courses which include experiential education components as outlined by the quality enhancement plan are eligible. Experiential learning may include civic engagement, service learning, scholarship or creative activity, and internships. Regardless of the activity, experiential learning at TWU bridges theory with practice, and is a dynamic, engaged form of learning characterized by: active collaboration; real-world problem solving; hands-on application of classroom theories; in-depth engagement with content; or simulation of skills external to the classroom. A single course section or multiple sections of the same course may be submitted for consideration.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Experiential learning may include civic engagement, service learning, scholarship or creative activity, and internships. Regardless of the activity, experiential learning at TWU bridges theory with practice, and is a dynamic, engaged form of learning characterized by: active collaboration; real-world problem solving; hands-on application of classroom theories; in-depth engagement with content; or simulation of skills external to the classroom.

QEP-designated courses must align with the QEP student learning outcomes and NSEE’s eight principles of good practice for experiential learning. These courses must also include at least one course project that includes the following elements:

* Application of classroom theories to real-world settings or situations, real-world problem solving, or simulation of skills in a real-world context;
* Guided reflection;
* At least one direct assessment measure of course project;
* Experience sharing (formally or informally) among the students;

Utilization of the QEP-designated assessments is also required. These include:

* Student completion of the Collaboration, Application, Problem-Solving (CAPS) Self-assessment (S-CAPS);
* Faculty assessment of student skills and/or knowledge including collaboration, application, and problem-solving (F-CAPS);
* Inclusion of statements on the course evaluation specific to the experiential learning activities in the course.

Courses selected must meet these requirements for each offering during the 2014-15 and 2015-16 academic years.

**QEP STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Guided by the TWU mission and strategic plan, *Pioneering Pathways: Learn by Doing* is centered on two student learning outcomes. These include: (SLO 1) effectively connecting classroom theories to real-world experiences through practical application of knowledge; and (SLO 2) accurately assessing knowledge and skills related to personal or professional goals including collaboration, application, and problem-solving.

**NSEE EIGHT PRINCIPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE**

Applicants may wish to review and utilize NSEE’s Eight Principles of Good practice in completing the application. You may print a copy of the principles at <http://www.twu.edu/qep/faculty.asp> or at <http://nsee.memberclicks.net/8-principles>.

**QEP-designated Course- Application Cover Page**

**Applicant Name**:

Title:

Email:       Department:

Phone:

**Course Information:** Please include details below about the course you plan to teach as a QEP-designated course in Fall 2014 or Spring 2015.

Course Term      Course Number

Course Title      Course Section(s)

Estimated Number of Experiential Contact Hours Per Week

Please describe the proposed experiential activity in the course (i.e. internship, scholarship, creative activity, civic engagement, service learning, course-embedded, etc.).

Applicant Signature Date

Chair Signature Date

 Dean Signature Date

**Experiential Faculty Fellow Application**

1. Please describe the experiential activities included in this course and how these activities are meaningful in a real-world context for the students. Please also indicate how you will orient and prepare students for the experience.

1. Please list the student learning outcomes for your course and indicate how the experiential learning activities in your course align with QEP goals and SLOs. You may wish to illustrate alignment by using the table format below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course SLOs | QEP SLOs |
|       |       |

1. Please describe your plan for assessing the experiential learning activities in your course. You must include at least one direct assessment measure for assessing QEP SLO 1. You may wish to illustrate your plan by using the table format below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Course SLO | Learning Activity | Assessment Measure |
|       |       |       |

1. Please indicate how you will monitor students’ progress toward the learning outcomes and how you might make adjustments, if needed, to the learning activities.

1. Guided reflection is a key aspect in maximizing students’ learning through experiential activities. Please describe how you will utilize the guided reflections in the course.

1. Students should have an opportunity to share and celebrate their experiences (formally and/or informally). Please describe how students will share their experiences with others as a part of the course.

1. Describe your interest(s) in experiential learning.

1. Please include any additional information about your course you would like considered.

Please submit the following with your application:

* syllabus (inclusive of SLOs, assignments, and activities described in this application) for the proposed QEP-designated course.

Applications can be submitted to Dr. Kimberly Miloch, Director of Quality Enhancement Programs, via email to kmiloch@twu.edu or via campus mail to BHL 228C in the Pioneer Center for Student Excellence.

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