

Engaged Learning Fellowship (ELF) – 2014 Course Redesign Call for Proposals

Bringing together the goals of engaged scholarship and student success, the Engaged Learning Fellowships offer faculty the opportunity to redesign and deliver traditionally taught courses using an engaged learning model. Funding and other support for ELF is being provided through the Office of the Provost and the Engaged Scholarship Committee at the University of Memphis.

Engaged Learning is a mode of experiential learning that fosters collaboration between faculty, students, and community partners for mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge that addresses a community-identified need and reciprocally supports the goals of community partners, student competencies, and faculty research.

For the 2014-15 ELF cycle we are seeking course redesign proposals from full-time faculty and staff that regularly teach undergraduate courses in The College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, the College of Communication and Fine Arts, and the Herff College of Engineering.

ELF Proposals are due by 5 pm on Friday, August 1, 2014. Redesign will occur during Fall 2014 and course delivery should occur during Spring 2015. Only courses that usually enroll at least 15 students will be considered.

Written proposals should demonstrate the following:

- 1) Pedagogical components - Successful proposals will reflect an emphasis on best practices in both course design and use of engaged learning and community engagement strategies. What conceptual/disciplinary competencies and skills will students' gain through this engaged learning course? How?
- 2) Community partner commitment– Successful proposals will identify the community partner(s) that faculty will be working with and describe how the relationship will be mutually beneficial to all parties. How long has the faculty-community partnership existed? What need has been identified? How will the community partner be involved in the course? What tangible product(s) and/or benefit(s) will the community partner gain through this relationship?
- 3) Faculty research – Successful proposals will connect the redesigned course to faculty member's research and describe how this engaged learning course will aid in the development or advancement of faculty members' research interest(s) (e.g. engagement with community partner during redesigned course may generate new research questions, students in redesigned course may collect preliminary data, etc.).
- 4) Assessment of Outcomes – Assessment of redesign outcomes will be central to the fellowship. All proposals will need to include specific plans to measure and report changes in a) student mastery of conceptual competencies and skill building; b) community benefit; c) contribution to faculty member's research interest(s).

- 5) Departmental commitment – Successful proposals will discuss the ways that engaged learning are or will be an ongoing part of the departmental curricula.

Additional Information required:

- a) Copy of original course syllabus (traditionally taught)
- b) Letter of Commitment from the community partner
- c) Letter of Commitment from Department Chair
- d) Budget Narrative – explaining how you intend to use the funds.

Please email proposal and supporting documents to Katherine Lambert-Pennington at almbtrtpn@memphis.edu with the subject line “ELF Proposal.”

Timeframe of Effort - Work on these course redesigns should largely occur between August 18th and the end of the Fall 2014 semester with productive use of the updated course in the Spring of 2015. It is extremely important that selected Fellows be available for active participation throughout the fellowship period (see tentative schedule below).

Sharing and dissemination of process and outcomes – Fellows are required to submit a written report detailing the outcomes of their redesigned course. Additionally, they will be asked to share the outcomes of their course redesign efforts with the Engaged Scholarship Committee and others on campus during the 2015 academic year.

Engaged Scholarship Committee Commitment – Selected ELF faculty will be engaged with members of the UM Engaged Scholarship Committee throughout the process to assist in selecting/developing appropriate tools for effective community engagement and experiential learning. Fellows must commit to participate in development sessions over the course of the fellowship and be willing to share their experience with others on campus.

Compensation – faculty who are awarded an ELF and complete their course redesign will receive a stipend of \$2000. They will be eligible for an additional \$500 stipend after the course has been taught at least one semester and the assessment report has been submitted. Stipends can be used for extra faculty compensation, honorariums for community partners’ involvement in the course; student travel for project; faculty conference travel; other class project related expenses.

Rating Criteria – Greater consideration will be given to proposals that emphasize the following: a) sections of historically low performing courses (Less than 60% success rate) b) degree of innovation and/or rationale for redesign; c) likely replication in other courses; d) emphasis on best practices in course redesign to achieve student success.

Timeline - 2014 Engaged Learning Fellowship Program Schedule

- Call for proposals issued – July 8, 2014
- Informational session – July 21, 2014 @ 1 pm - location TBA - please email Katherine Lambert-Pennington to RSVP (almbtrtpn@memphis.edu)
- Proposal due – August 1, 2014
- Announcement of Awards – around August 15, 2014

- Late-August – First meeting with ELF, Community Partner(s), and members of the Engaged Scholarship Committee
- Late September – ES Professional Development workshop focused on Engaged learning – required for ELF, open to others who are interested.
- Late October/November – Intentional Conversation – What does ELF course look like now? Share design for measuring students’ mastery of course-based competencies and skill building.
- December – Intentional Conversation – What else do faculty/community partners need to do to prepare for spring semester?
- Redesign of course complete – December 10, 2014.
- Spring Semester 2015 – Deliver redesigned course.
- February/March – Intentional Conversation w/faculty and community partner – mid-semester progress report.
- May 30, 2015 – ELF assessment report due.
- May – Fall 2015 – ELFs Showcase their classes’ activities & Intentional conversation about impact, effectiveness, and process.

If you have questions about the Engaged Learning Fellowship program, please contact Katherine Lambert-Pennington at almbtrtpn@memphis.edu or Nicole Thompson at nlthmpsn@memphis.edu.