

ENGAGED LEARNING 101 – A GUIDE TO YOUR RIDER GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Beginning in Fall 2017, all students have an Engaged Learning Graduation Requirement.

New First Time Freshmen (your fall or spring semester is your first time as a college student)

- a. You need to earn **6** engaged learning points by your senior year
- b. Points must be spread over at least two different Engaged Learning categories

New Transfer Students (you have attended at least one semester at another institution)

- a. *You have **30 or fewer** accepted transfer credits*
 - i. You need to earn **6** engaged learning points by your senior year
 - ii. Points must be spread over at least two different Engaged Learning categories
- b. *You have **31 or more** accepted transfer credits*
 - i. You need to earn **3** engaged learning points by your senior year
 - ii. Points must be spread over at least two different Engaged Learning categories

What are the Engaged Learning Categories?

Courses and experiences are divided between six different categories. The points you earn must be in at least two of the six categories shown below:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Arts, Media and Creativity (AMC) | 4. Study Abroad and Cultural Exploration (SACE) |
| 2. Civic and Community Engagement (CCE) | 5. Guided Research and Scholarship (GRS) |
| 3. Leadership and Mentoring (LM) | 6. Internship, Co-Op and Fieldwork (ICF) |

You can find an explanation of the categories on the Engaged Learning Program website here:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/categories>

How Do I Earn Engaged Learning Points?

Everyone earns points in the same way, by taking a course approved to earn points, by participating in approved experiences, or by participating in community service.

Course credits earned equate to points, up to a max of 3 points per course. For example, GLS 285 earns 3 credits or 3 points; EDU 451 can earn up to 6 credits but no more than 3 points.

Experiences earn points based on the number of hours of participation you accrue, as follows:

20 to 49 hours = 1 point 50 to 99 hours = 2 points 100 or more hours = 3 points

Experience hours can accrue across semesters or academic years until you have reached at least 20 or more hours. The more hours you submit at one time, the more points you can earn, based upon the above scale. Submit hours in BroncNation (<https://broncnation.rider.edu/>) using the correct experience form.

How Do Courses Earn Points?

The Engaged Learning Program website contains a list of courses that are pre-approved to earn points:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/approved-courses>

In addition, the online Course Roster contains a column, Course Attr., which identifies courses that earn points and which category they are in. This is very useful when planning your future class schedule:

<https://comm.rider.edu/registrar/main.php?term=202010>

At the end of each semester after grades have been submitted by your professor to the Registrar, points equal to the number of course credits (up to a maximum of 3) will be added automatically to your Engaged Learning transcript and will be visible in DegreeWorks.

Have questions or would like an appointment to review your Engaged Learning progress or discuss how to meet your requirement?
Contact Sandy Ober, Engaged Learning Coordinator; MLIB Suite 120; telephone: x 7055; email: engagedlearning@rider.edu

How Do Experiences Earn Points?

You can find a list of approved experiences, both on campus and off, on the Rider website:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/co-curricular-experiences>

Each experience in the list has a form in BroncNation. Once you reach 20+ hours in one experience, complete and submit the form. If your experience is not specifically listed you can use the “Other” option in the category, or if you are performing service hours, submit them as Community Service (see Community Service below.) You can find instructions on how to complete the experience form here:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/student-forms-information>

Your 250+ word written reflection is the focus for approving your experience submission. The reviewer wants to know your impressions from the experience. There are no right or wrong responses. Write about positives and/or negatives, what you learned, how the experience can be useful during your everyday life, and how the experience may affect you in your career and beyond. Read some well-written sample reflections submitted by your peers here:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/co-curricular-experiences/reflection>

A designated approver will read your reflection. They have two options: approve it as submitted, or deny it, sending you suggestions on how to improve it. If denied, revise it and resubmit for another review. Periodically throughout each semester a report of all approved experiences is sent to the Registrar. After the Registrar uploads the data, points will appear on your Engaged Learning Transcript and in DegreeWorks.

How Does Community Service Earn Points?

Perform service with one or more organizations. Keep track of service hours you work and record them in BroncNation. You must work at least 20 hours to be eligible to earn 1 point. You can find instructions here:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/co-curricular-experiences>

Hours you enter in BroncNation are approved periodically. Once you submit 20+ approved hours the Office of Service and Civic Engagement will contact you to attend a “reflection session,” where you will discuss your experience in a group setting. After you attend the reflection session a report of attendees is sent to the Engaged Learning Coordinator who will report points earned to the Registrar. Then, earned point(s) will appear in DegreeWorks and on the Engaged Learning Transcript.

New Student Engagement Experience- An Easy Way to Earn Your First Point!!

Available to all first-year freshmen and first-year transfer students. Attend any 6 different campus events. Submit all 6 as one experience in BroncNation using the experience form for CCE: New Student Engagement Experience. Once approved you will earn one point. For complete information see the website:

<https://www.rider.edu/engaged-learning/program/new-student-engagement-experience>

TIPS:

1. **Use your years at Rider wisely!** Plan ahead and earn points before you reach your Senior year, when you will become very busy with more intense coursework, internships, or other commitments.
2. **Don't wait until the end of a semester to submit experiences or service hours.** Submit them when you complete at least 20 hours. Experience reviewers are faculty or staff and are very busy too, especially at the end of a semester, and late submissions may not be reviewed until the next semester.
3. **Get involved!** There are so many opportunities to explore and learn beyond the classroom!
4. **Make an appointment to discuss your progress.** The Engaged Learning Coordinator can help you create a plan to earn points.

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