

Hello Colleagues

As most of you know, the Faculty Assembly approved on Tuesday, March 25 the Signature Learning Experience (SLE) definitions and list of qualified courses and experiences proposed by Academic Council. I want to update you on how implementation of the SLE requirement is proceeding.

Attached are pdf versions of the SLE definitions and approved SLE experiences. There is also a petition form for faculty to propose new SLEs to AC or to delete them from the list. These attachments can be found in the Faculty Assembly shared folder anytime (See FA 3/25/14 meeting materials, AC minutes of 3/18/14, Appendices A, B and C).

**Here are some actions that have been taken since Tuesday:**

- The fall 2014 master schedule now includes SLE designations for qualified courses
- All graduation reports and student degree audits for first-year students (class of 2017) include a Core & SLE Section that indicates to students and faculty advisors whether the SLE requirement has been met. Every student's grad report is the mechanism for faculty to monitor the College's expectations and provide proper advisement of these students.
- If a current first-year student completed an approved SLE last fall or is taking a SLE course or experience this spring, that should be indicated on the current graduation report.

With thanks to Beverly Schmalhofer, Senior Associate Registrar, here are FAQs and answers about the SLE requirement and where to find information:

**How do I determine if a student is required to complete the SLE requirements for degree completion?**

- **ALL FY students** are required to complete SLEs
- **Transfer students** are accepted to Elizabethtown College on a rolling basis. As a result, a transfer student entering the college as a member of the 2013 cohort may/may not be required to complete SLEs. In consultation with the Admissions Office, a student's deposit date was used as the mechanism for requiring SLEs for transfer students.

On the students grad report: **Transfer students** with a

- **CORE** definition of **CORE2003** should be encouraged to engage in SLE opportunities; but, they are not required for degree completion. These students deposited prior to the approval of Real World Learning last year.
- **CORE** definition of **CORE2013** are required to complete a minimum of two SLEs as part of their graduation requirements for degree completion.

**Where can I find the complete list of courses and experiences approved as SLEs?**

- The complete list of courses and experiences can be found on the Registration and Records CORE webpage identified as "Signature Learning Experiences".  
[http://www.etown.edu/offices/registration-records/files/core\\_requirements/SLE-Courses-and-Experiences.pdf](http://www.etown.edu/offices/registration-records/files/core_requirements/SLE-Courses-and-Experiences.pdf)

**Are there any SLE opportunities this Summer for FY or Transfer Students required to complete SLEs?**

- There are currently three courses offered in the May Term that are approved SLEs: REL 170; BA 372 and AN 362.
- For more detail, visit the Registration and Records Summer Session webpage and click on the course offering link.

### Where can I find information on SLE offerings for the Fall 2014 semester?

- The **Open/Closed Report** on the Registration and Records website includes a **SEARCH** option. Type in “Signature Learning” in the search field and the Open/Closed report will list all SLE offerings for the Fall 2014 semester.
- Registration and Records continues to provide a **PDF version of the Fall Schedule**. Faculty can refer to the “Notes” column for signature learning on the printable document.
- Within JayWeb, all course offerings as part of the Summer and Fall schedules are identified as SLE offerings as part of the course description. For example, a course description will include **“Signature learning Experience: Community-Based learning”** for all courses approved as community-based learning.
- Approved SLE Definitions can be found on the Registration and Records “Policy Changes” webpage under the 2013-14 Real World Learning heading.  
<http://www.etown.edu/offices/registration-records/policy-changes.aspx>

### Is there an SLE check sheet?

- SLE’s were incorporated onto the CORE check sheet as another general education requirement for degree completion.
- This form has been updated with the newly approved SLE definitions and it can be found at [http://www.etown.edu/offices/registration-records/files/core\\_requirements/CORE\\_SLE\\_Checksht.pdf](http://www.etown.edu/offices/registration-records/files/core_requirements/CORE_SLE_Checksht.pdf)

Among future tasks to be performed is revision of the College Catalog. The RWL/SLE requirement is described in the 2013-14 Catalog (see page 5), but the 2014-15 version will provide greater detail and be placed more prominently. The 2014-15 Catalog is considering to be a “working document” until it is officially archived in the Fall. This provides faculty the opportunity to verify that all approved changes through Faculty Assembly this year were accurately reflected in the online catalog

For your reference in advising students on the SLE requirement, I have attached my PowerPoint presentation, “Advising for Real World Learning,” that I gave January 10 and February 26 and have revised to include the March 25 action of Faculty Assembly.

I will send a version of this memorandum to all first-year students, but I strongly encourage you and your department chair to update your first-year advisees directly.

I want to thank the staff at Registration and Records for their prompt actions to inform students about SLEs after the Faculty Assembly meeting. Having said that, I will make a startling admission: administrators do not know or think of everything. If you have ideas for improving the information we provide about SLEs or for advising students more effectively, please send your suggestions to me.

Thank you for your cooperation and good work with our students.

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