

TEACHING TIP OF THE MONTH

December 2022

Theme: Experiential Learning Ideas for Any Course

Tip 1: Teaching Others

One of the most effective ways to learn a skill or concept is to teach it to others (“[Improving Your Learning by Teaching, 2021](#)”), and the practice of teaching engages learners in the experiential learning cycle of *planning, doing, reflecting, and concluding*. Instructors can collaborate with students to identify course concepts to teach and plan how they will teach and evaluate their teaching. When appropriate, students can record their teaching for later review and reflection. The teaching can take place in class, be recorded outside class, or be presented virtually. Students can share the recording with others and include it in their portfolios as evidence of their learning and presentation skills, which supports their career preparation.

Tip 2: Interviews as Research

Engaging in research and inquiry is a common experiential learning activity; however, the scope of many research projects makes it impractical for most courses. An interview assignment can engage students in experiential learning and practice research skills. Interviews could include talking to experts in the industry, collecting stories from family, or gathering a community member’s opinions on issues from the course. Planning for the interview, creating relevant questions, practicing interview skills, taking accurate notes, and choosing the best format to present interview findings are all practical skills to support career preparation.

For more details about Experiential Learning (including a comprehensive definition, benefits, examples, and elements), check out “[What is Experiential Learning?](#)” and “[Experiential Learning: Pathway to Success](#)” on The Hub.

More Info on Teaching Tips

“Teaching Tips of the Month” began as a project of the Program for Active Learning in STEM (PALS) and Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES) grants. Many thanks to Ray Gonzales and Alla Webb, who served as Principal Investigators of the TIDES grants. You can view archived Teaching Tips of the Month on [The Hub](#). We welcome feedback and invite you to submit ideas for this publication to Angela Lanier, angela.lanier@montgomerycollege.edu

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