Immersion Experience at Earlham College

**Immersion Experience Requirement (IE)**
All Earlham students will participate in at least one designated immersion experience (IE) in their time at Earlham. The IE will enable students to experientially explore future career directions and academic interests. IEs cannot be approved “after-the-fact” since preparing students for their experience through guided reflection and critical thinking is central to making the experience “educative.” As is current practice within our general education program, exceptions and adjustments can be made for students in extraordinary circumstances.

**Immersion Experience Curricular Goals/Immersion Experiences should:**
- Enhance and deepen the connections between theoretical and professional activities and forms of knowledge.
- Encourage the application of skills to practical (including scholarly) challenges.
- Support and enhance vocational discernment and exploration.
- Promote a sense of personal responsibility in students in global, local and professional communities, including, but not limited to community engagement or civic responsibility.
- Experience collaborative, social learning and work environments including teamwork and problem solving.
- Demonstrate the ability to reflect critically on practical experiences.

**Immersion Experience Qualifying Criteria**
Examples of Immersion Experiences might include: summer internships, summer research or artistic experiences, paid or volunteer work experiences, applied community research within a course, and international volunteering or internships. IE proposals must include:
- Articulation of how the proposed IE will allow students to experience and/or demonstrate each of the stated curricular goals.
- A minimum of 120 hours if the IE is during the summer. For IEs embedded in courses during the school year, proposals should clearly indicate how the experience represents a significant component of the course and include an estimate of the number of related hours of student work/activity.
- A “pre-briefing” with the student(s) to confirm the learning outcomes, critical questions, and framing of the experience, feedback and/or reflective mechanisms early in the experience, and post-experience reflection that facilitates a demonstration of learning connected to the learning goals.