

STUDENT OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

The Augsburg Experience

April 8, 2005

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

1. The Augsburg Experience integrates experiential learning with academic learning. It demonstrates enhanced learning and reflects research and best practices of experiential education.
2. An Augsburg Experience links on-campus learning to the constituency goals, mission, needs or ideas of off-campus people, organizations and/or communities, through community partners and/or professional activities and/or travel.

Students should be capable of:

- Describing the goals, mission, needs and cultural diversity of the external organization.
- Stating how their coursework in their major field and in general education applies to the Augsburg Experience.
- Identifying specific linkages between concepts and practices in courses they have taken with the Augsburg Experience.
- Articulating the value and advantage of linking what is learned in their major and other areas of their Augsburg education with the external audience, situation or cultural context.

METHOD

Reflective essay (direct measure): The essay/reflection will address the following topics:

- Articulate the organization's purpose, goals, structure, culture and outcomes.
- Describe how the experience has connected with and provided application of course material in your major or in another area of your education at Augsburg College.
- Explain the value you have seen through this experience in the context of your Augsburg education. How has it differed from an on-campus classroom experience? How has it contributed to your understanding of diversity?
- Relate any personal experiences with persons who are identified with the off-campus organization or situation how they contributed to the value added to your education by this experience.

GOALS — DIRECT MEASURES

- 1a. Reflective essays evaluated will provide evidence that students understand the external organization and its goals, structure, culture and outcomes. (Two-thirds of essays will describe the organization in terms that suggest an understanding of its mission, culture and structure.)
- 1b. Reflective essays evaluated will provide evidence that students can identify the means by which this experience has connected with educational programs at Augsburg. (Two-thirds of essays will identify at least two connective means.)
- 2a. Reflective essays evaluated will include evidence that students have realized an added-value provided by this experience beyond the on-campus classroom experience and have explained why. (Three-fourths of essays will describe a value-add and two-thirds will have provided at least one explanation for the value-add.)
- 2b. Reflective essays will provide evidence that students have encountered persons in the off-campus organization or situation or cultural context who have contributed to the value of the experience and have understood those encounters. (Two-thirds of essays will have identified individuals and explained their impact on the student's experience.)

SCORING RUBRIC

The essay should be 3 – 4 handwritten pages or 1 – 2 typed pages. In addition to questions or issues specific to the experience or a related course, instructions to students should include:

- *Articulate the organization’s purpose, goals, structure, culture and outcomes.*
- *Describe how the experience has connected with and provided application of course material in your major or in another area of your education at Augsburg College.*
- *Explain the value you have seen through this experience in the context of your Augsburg education. How has this experience differed from an on-campus classroom experience? How has it contributed to your understanding of diversity?*
- *Relate any personal experiences with persons who are identified with the off-campus organization or situation or cultural context and how they contributed to the value added to your education by this experience.*

Points—	Possible	Earned
1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the organization and its structure, goals, outcomes, etc.		
1a. The student essay has described the organization and at least one element of its mission, structure, goals, culture or outcomes.	1	
1b. The student essay has described the organization and two elements of its mission, structure, goals, culture or outcomes, clearly organized and presented.	2	
1c. The student essay has described all elements of the organization’s mission, structure, goals, culture and desired outcomes completely and clearly.	3	
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify how connections can be made between coursework and experience.		
2a. The student essay has identified one means of connection.	1	
2b. The student essay has identified two or more means of connection.	2	
2c. The student essay has identified more than two means of connection and fully explained the relationship and results.	3	
3. Students will realize the added value provided by the present experience and recognize where and how the value originates.		
3a. The student essay describes at least one value-add in the present experience.	1	
3b. The student essay includes an understanding of at least one explanation of the value added through the present experience.	2	
3c. The student essay ties together theory and application in the present experience in ways that demonstrate an understanding of why and how value is added.	3	
4. Students will appreciate the contribution of persons in off-campus organizations or situations or cultural contexts to the value of the present experience.		
4a. The student essay identifies at least one person associated with the organization or situation or cultural context in the present experience.	1	
4b. The student essay exhibits an understanding of how the encounter with a person in the off-campus experience has contributed to the value of the experience.	2	
4c. The student essay exhibits understanding of the value added by a person in the present experience and shows evidence of personal reflection in areas of vocation, career, profession, contribution, global diversity and/or community.	3	
Total—		

This rubric may be scored and averaged—criteria may be set to establish the final rubric (e.g., minimum average score.)