

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY CLAS Center for Experiential Learning

CLAS VOYAGE

Highlighting the value of a liberal arts and sciences degree, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is launching the CLAS Voyage for Fall 2025.

The CLAS Voyage, centered in equity and sustainability, begins with an academic seminar connected with first-year experiences and resources:

- Students in every CLAS major will engage in experiential learning (e.g. internships, study abroad, scholarly and creative activity, and community-based learning).
- Students will reflect on the experiences they have and the skills they develop with a reflective toolkit, culminating with their capstone.

The CLAS Voyage, centered in equity and sustainability, begins with an academic seminar connected with first-year experiences and resources: Faculty will be supported on the Voyage through the CLAS Center for Experiential Learning (CCEL). This hub of experiential and engaged learning will provide opportunities to develop experiential learning curriculum and opportunities, innovate with other faculty, and support grant-writing and other funding needs.

LAKER ACCELERATED TALENT LINK

Internships play a critical role in shaping the future lives of GVSU students. Talent Link seeks to enhance the value of a liberal arts and sciences degree while meeting the needs of West Michigan employers through a unique employer-funded program.

Student scholars receive:

- \$15,000 employer-sponsored scholarship to layer a technical certificate (e.g. Project Management, Applied Data Analytics, Business Fundamentals or Technical Sales) on top of their major.
- Fall semester participation in a co-curricular cohort to prepare for the internship.
- Paid internship with an employer partner during winter or summer semester.
- Good faith job offer post-graduation if positions are available.

There are many opportunities to engage as faculty, including internship support and coordination, new certificate development, employer relations, and skill tracking and assessment.

CLAS Center for Experiential Learning

In support of the CLAS Voyage and college-wide experiential learning, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has developed the CLAS Center for Experiential Learning (CCEL) which will work to close equity

gaps for students and support a sustainable faculty-led curriculum in CLAS. In partnership with CCEL, faculty may find:

- Faculty-curated resources on implementing experiential learning practices.
- Connection to campus resources such as the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, Office of Civic Learning and Community Engagement, Career Center, and Padnos International Center
- Faculty and administrative support for research and grant-making activities
- Central administrative support for experiential learning activities and events
- Fundraising for student access to experiential learning

The CCEL Team

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Faculty Fellows, 2023-2024

RACHEL CAMPBELL

Associate Professor, Sociology

GUIN THOMPSON

Assistant Professor, Visual and Media Arts

DAWN HART

Professor, Cell and Molecular Biology

DAVID ZWART

Associate Professor and Assistant Chair, History

BRADFORD DYKES

Associate Professor, Statistics