FFC Experiential Learning Requirement: Fractional Experiential Credits Completion Guide

The <u>guidelines</u> for the Experiential Learning requirement of the Forester Fundamental Curriculum (FFC-EL) specify that the FFC-EL is equivalent to a one-course workload (150 hours) and it allows students to

- (a) apply knowledge acquired in their Lake Forest College coursework and
- (b) build hands-on skills in a new context.

Although most students will fulfill the FFC-EL requirement with a single 1.0 credit-based project, students can also satisfy the requirement with a series of fractional credit-based projects (e.g., 0.25, 0.50, 0.75 credits) once these projects sum to 1.0 credit (or more). There are many fractional credit-based projects, such as independent research, practica, for-credit peer teaching, for-credit peer mentoring, for-credit tutoring, and the 4-week Summer Richter.

To illustrate this, let's imagine that a student completed a 0.50 credit 4-week Summer Richter project in the summer after their first year, then earned 0.25 credits as a peer mentor as a sophomore, and finally completed a 0.25-credit independent research project as a junior. Cumulatively, these three fractional experiential projects sum to 1.0 credit and, together, they satisfy the FFC-EL requirement.

Following completion of the <u>final</u> fractional credit-based project (i.e., the one that reaches or surpasses the 1.0 cumulative credit threshold), then you must complete the following steps:

- 1. Meet with your <u>academic advisor</u> once your fractional experiential credits exceed the 1.0 credit threshold. Review this FFC-EL Fractional Credits Completion Guide with the academic advisor.
- 2. After the meeting, prepare the following (ideally as a Word document that can easily be shared with your academic advisor):
 - Provide a list of the fractional experiential credits that meet or exceed the cumulative 1.0 credit threshold. Be sure to include the terms during which each fractional credit was completed.
 - Provide a written reflection (500-word minimum) that adheres to the following guidelines:
 - a) Summarize the projects and evaluate how they applied skills that you gained in the classroom.
 - b) Explain how the projects added new skills to your competencies.
 - c) Articulate how you will describe to a prospective employer, graduate school, or other audience the ways in which these experiences contributed to and enhanced your education.
- 3. Share this information with the academic advisor to ensure that it has been completed properly.
- 4. Once the academic advisor is satisfied with your responses, then complete the <u>FFC-EL Fractional Credits</u> <u>Completion Form</u> on my.lakeforest.
- 5. After submission, your academic advisor automatically will be prompted for approval. After the advisor approves, the form automatically will be sent to the Registrar who will mark your FFC-EL requirement as complete.