

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

**LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM:
NON-COURSE REQUEST FOR LBC DESIGNATION IN GENERAL EDUCATION**

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1. Workshop/Experience Title Road Rules for Choosing a Major/Career

The experience must require a commitment equivalent to what would be a minimum of 1 credit hour (15 contact hours). In your description, demonstrate how this will be accomplished.

2. Description

This experience will entail a series of workshops that will assist students in exploring their personality preferences, interests, skills and values. In addition, students will learn how all preferences relate and are essential to consider in the selection of a major and in establishing career goals. Students will be able to choose from a variety of workshops related to this topic in order to customize the experience to their particular situation with the total time spent in workshops and/or career exploration activities totaling a minimum of 15 hours. Examples of topics/activities include:

- Personality preference inventory (MBTI)
- Personality preferences interpretation
- Interest inventory
- Values clarification/ranking
- Skills identification
- Occupational research
- Job shadowing
- Informational interviews

3. Check the LBC requirement this program is intended to meet.

Learning Beyond the Classroom (*LBC designation*). Please designate the specific LBC category:

- Self and Well Being
- Community Service, Citizenship, and Leadership
- Cultural and Academic Activities and Events
- Career and Professional Development
- International and Multicultural Experience
- Undergraduate Research

4. Rationale. Provide a concise, clear, jargon-free explanation of how this experience fits into the General Education program and why it fulfills a Learning Beyond the Classroom requirement. This rationale must be included on the materials distributed to students participating in the experience, (excluding promotional materials).

The Road Rules for Choosing a Major/Career workshop series is a Learning Beyond the Classroom experience that meets the requirements of Career and Professional Development. The Road Rules for Choosing a Major/Career series utilizes a wide variety of career resources and activities that ensure students are able to gain self-awareness as it relates to careers as well as knowledge of occupations and the world of work. In addition, they will learn how to evaluate themselves and potential careers in order to make informed career choices and set goals while in college and beyond. This workshop series is intended to help students with deciding on or confirming a major and with identifying potential occupations after graduation.

5. Clearly and concisely explain how this program meets each of the General Education outcomes for the requirement checked in number three (all outcomes of selected category should be addressed). To do this, (a) list the General Education outcomes for the requirement and explain how the program meets each outcome; and (b) after each outcome explain how you will assess if the outcome has been met and how you will provide feedback to the students.

- *Consider their careers and futures as professionals in reference to what they have achieved already, what they are doing currently, and what their interests and goals are.*

a). Road Rules for Choosing a Major/Career will include activities that look at past experiences/achievements, past/current work experiences and past/current classes in a process of clarifying interests, values and skills and how they relate to potential careers. Each of these is considered crucial to the career exploration and decision-making process.

b). Students who participate in Road Rules for Choosing a Major/Career will complete a number of inventories (personality, values, skills and interests), complete exercises concerning past and present

accomplishments, work experiences and goals and will also participate in group discussions to encourage internalization and application of their results. Completion of these activities will indicate outcome has been met. Results of inventories, personality-specific handouts and completed exercises will serve as feedback to the students.

- *Explore various career and professional opportunities through structured channels.*

a). Road Rules for Choosing a Major/Career will utilize a number of career resources in assisting students in exploring career and professional opportunities. These include but are not limited to: TypeFocus, CareerSearch, Open Options, and the Occupational Outlook Handbook. In addition, students will have the opportunity to take part in a job shadowing or informational interview experience which will utilize the Alumni Career Connection program. This program links students with EMU Alumni who have volunteered to discuss their career field, offer preparation advice as well as job search and networking tips.

b). Students completing this workshop series will be asked to share the results of their occupational exploration in small groups. They will also be asked to complete an evaluation form at the end of the program which will capture a list of occupations/careers explored as well as their degree of clarity in terms of a major or career direction – both pre and post the Road Rules workshop series. The small group discussions as well as the evaluation instrument will both be used to assess whether this outcome has been met. Printed materials generated during the occupational research as well as discussions held with alumni will serve as feedback to the students.

6. Attach the materials that will be distributed to students. The materials must include the rationale from #4 above and clearly reflect the outcomes and methods detailed in #5 above.

Please submit all materials in electronic form.

Action of the Department

Department Approval

Date

Action of General Education Advisory Committee (comments attached)

Vote of General Education Committee: For _____ Against _____ Abstentions _____

Chairperson, General Education Advisory Committee

Date

Approval

Associate Vice-President for Undergraduate Studies and Curriculum

Date