



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING
AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
PAUL MCGHEE DIVISION

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Evaluation of Prior Learning by Portfolio

Seminar in Experiential Learning

EXPR1-DC 9801/2 credits

Prerequisites: Writing Workshop I (EXWR1-DC 7502)

Having attended a Prior Learning Assessment Information Session

Permission of Assistant Director for Experiential Learning and Student Support Services

Course Description

This course offers a study of the history and theory of experiential learning. Students identify their own educational goals and analyze how their prior college-level learning fits into the curriculum of their overall degree plan. Students document, write, and edit their portfolios of prior learning. At the discretion of the instructor, students may use one additional semester to complete six or fewer portfolios or two additional semesters to complete seven or more portfolios without an additional fee. Students may not register for this course more than once.

The portfolio is structured in such a way as to go far beyond a narrative of experiences: students must distinguish between learning and experience, articulate their knowledge and its utilization, and establish interconnections between practice, theory, and academic modes of thought.

Be aware that the *Seminar in Experiential Learning* requires an extensive investment of time and effort to successfully complete a portfolio within a semester's time. Please take this into account during advisement and planning for the semester. The *Seminar in Experiential Learning* is offered at current SCPS tuition and fees. Students do not pay tuition for credits earned through the portfolio process.

Course Objectives

The intent of the seminar is to move you step-by-step toward the goal of completing a prior-learning proposal and portfolio that includes the following:

- **Cover page** with your name, NYU ID number, degree program, courses being challenged (title and course number), and date of submission
- **Table of contents**
- **Degree plan** (signed by the academic advisor responsible for graduation audit) based on the your complete plan of courses, which includes prior-learning credit, portfolios, transfer credit, credit by examination, and NYU course work, which you intend to complete to satisfy your degree requirements
- **Autobiography** (minimum of four to seven pages), which reviews significant learning experiences and discusses your personal, education, and career goals
- **Narrative** (minimum of eight pages), which describes the nature of the competencies and how they were acquired
- **Documentation** and/or assessment strategies, which verify the competencies and the content of the context essay. Examples:

Paul McGhee Division – Student Services

7 East 12th Street, 6th Floor

New York, NY 10003

(212) 992-9055

www.scps.nyu.edu/mcghee.prior.learning

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- Course transcript
- Annotated bibliography or list of materials used in course
- Official course description or syllabus
- Completed class assignments
- Certificate of attendance
- Notes taken in class
- Proof of enrollment in course
- Training manual, textbook, or other literature used
- Diploma
- Graded tests, reports, or other work evaluations
- Assigned reading list from course
- Reports, proposals, or other material written on the job
- Membership in professional or trade organizations
- Awards or citations
- Blueprints, schematics, artwork, or other work products
- Newspaper or magazine clippings about your work
- Military separation papers
- Resumes
- Description of job requirements
- Letters from supervisors or employers
- Description of license or certification
- License requirements
- Performance evaluations
- Letters of corroboration from co-volunteers, clients served, supervisors, etc
- An annotated bibliography of books read
- Patents obtained
- A list of countries visited
- Mementos from countries lived in and traveled
- Exhibits such as photographs, videotapes, etc.
- Programs from performances

Seminar in Experiential Learning - Entrance Interview

To enroll in the *Seminar in Experiential Learning*, you must have met with the assistant director for Experiential Learning and Student Support Services to discuss your eligibility. Prepare for the interview by printing the McGhee Course Book from www.scps.nyu.edu/mcghee.coursebook, going through all course descriptions, and choosing the courses you think you have the best chance of qualifying for. Mark these courses and make notes about the qualifications you have for each of them. Make sure that the courses you select meet the requirements for your degree in your core, major, and concentration requirements. Please visit the McGhee website at www.scps.nyu.edu/mcghee.degrees for more information. Also, be aware of the credit ceiling for portfolios, CLEP/Excelsior exams, foreign language proficiency, and transfer credit. You may earn up to half your credits through credit for prior learning.

If you think that you may qualify for courses offered through another NYU school, you may try to identify them through that school's catalogue in the same manner. The McGhee Division will help you with obtaining information or syllabi from other schools.

More Information

For Prior Learning Assessment Information Session dates, visit the McGhee Events Calendar at www.scps.nyu.edu/mcghee.events. To schedule an appointment for a seminar entrance interview, please contact Eileen Capone, assistant director for Experiential Learning and Student Support Services, at eileen.capone@nyu.edu or (212) 998-7280. At the time of the interview you will receive an access code to register for the Seminar in Experiential Learning.

Please note: You may not use credit earned by portfolios, CLEP or Excelsior College exams, Foreign Language Proficiency testing, or transfer courses toward the four concentration courses (16 credits) required for the Bachelor of Arts degree. You may write portfolios for two (eight credits) of the four concentration courses (16 credits) required for the Bachelor of Science degree.

McGhee Division - May 2012

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