Updated Guidance on Credit-Bearing Experiential Learning Activities – 21 June 2020

The health, safety, and well-being of our community is our highest priority. In alignment with our other COVID-19 Campus Re-entry Plans, the Office of the Provost and the Office of Research Innovation and Impact (RII) have partnered to provide updated guidance for students enrolled in credit-bearing experiential learning courses for the Summer and Fall semesters of 2020, with an effective date of June 1, 2020. Examples of credit-bearing experiential learning courses include Internships, Practica, Clinical Rotations, Independent Study Plans, Capstone Projects, Senior Design Projects, Dissertation Credits, and the like, wherein undergraduate and graduate students may work for academic credit, with or without pay, at on-campus sites, at off-campus sites with a faculty advisor, or at off-campus host institutions supervised by that institution.

This guidance supersedes any previous guidance, and is inclusive of all Arizona campuses, including Arizona Online.

Credit-bearing experiential learning placements involving in-person interactions are permitted, starting June 1, 2020 or later, only under the following conditions:

1. All planned, credit-bearing experiential learning placements on-campus or off-campus must be pre-approved by the authorized representative (academic coordinator, director of graduate studies, department head, chair of the GIDP, etc., as applicable) of the home department / academic unit of the student.

2. All students completing credit-based experiential learning must ask their site hosts to complete the Assessment of Recommended COVID-19 Workplace Risk Management Protocol for Credit-bearing Experiential Learning (attached).

3. On-campus research-based experiential learning placements may only be conducted in work units that have an approved research operations checklist authorized by the college and filed with RII. Students engaging in these experiential learning placements shall follow all applicable standard operating procedures (SOPs).

4. Off-campus, and practical on-campus experiential learning in units not governed by RII protocols because the student duties are not research-based, may be authorized by the academic unit of the student upon evaluation of a completed Assessment of Recommended COVID-19 Workplace Risk Management Protocol for Credit-bearing Experiential Learning completed and signed by the host institution supervisor and the student. In the case that the experiential learning is an internship, the student should also complete the University's Internship Work Plan and Disclosure on Insurance Coverage for University Internships for Credit.

This guidance will be re-evaluated on an ongoing basis, based on current COVID-19 conditions.