The Akron Experience

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Project Team:

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The Akron Experience: Vision 2020

“The Akron Experience is a distinctive approach to combining academic and experiential learning, teaching our students to understand the combined power of culture and knowledge to advance society and the economy. We will create true ‘citizens of the world’ who are prepared by their Akron Experience to understand and address societal needs.”
The Akron Experience is an approach...

- To student learning
- To globally relevant student success
- To student engagement
Why The Akron Experience?

What Employers Look For (NACE 2011):

- Team work
- Communication skills
- Problem solvers/decision makers
- Flexibility/ Adaptability/ Manage multiple priorities
- Interpersonal abilities
- Leadership and management skills
- Multicultural sensitivity
General Education Outcomes and The Akron Experience Core Competencies

Communication and Information Literacy
- Practical Skills: financial literacy, technological competence

Critical Thinking and Complex Reasoning
- Practical Skills: career development, goal directedness, organization, persistence

Responsible Citizenship in an Interconnected World
- Cultural Awareness: social responsibility and civic engagement
- Interpersonal Skills: leadership, communication, collaboration
- Practical Skills: health and wellness
The Akron Experience is...

- Theory based
- Supported by research
- Student focused
- Holistic
The Akron Experience

Engagement and Learning Outside of the Classroom Inspired and Informed by the Curriculum

Pre-Enrollment
First Year
Sophomore Year
Junior Year
Senior Year

ACADEMIC CORE/FOUNDATION
The Akron Experience

Career and Life Competencies

Cross-Cultural Competencies

Arts and Humanities Appreciation

Wellness Development

Community Engagement And Global Responsibility

Leadership Development
Graduate “great” students who can articulate the impact of My Akron Experience.
The Akron Experience
Culture Shift

+ A perfect balance: The benefits of a small institution with the opportunities of a large one
+ A unique culture of collaboration and transformative learning
+ Informed citizens and great people: Graduates will possess all the core competencies of the AE
+ Graduates will possess attributes that position them for success in the workplace and in life
+ Graduates will be positioned to have a job (80% hire rate) – record number of students will obtain post-graduation job or professional placement in dynamic careers due to intentional planning, experiential learning
Where are we now?

- Structural Components
  - Multi-Year Structured Experience
  - Structured Co-Curriculum and Co-Curricular Transcript
  - Framework for Assessment
- My Akron Experience portal
- Student Experience Matrix
- Fall 2012 Launch
Thank you!

Questions?