Community Engagement & Leadership (CEL) Program

UTEP COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
What is Community Engagement?

• Engagement in the community serves the purpose of building knowledge, motivation, and participatory behavior in a democratic society.

• Faculty create opportunities for engagement through a community partner.

• Students get connected to activities that create a mutually beneficial, reciprocal relationship that helps to serve the community in some way.
What is the Community Engagement and Leadership (CEL) Program?

• An initiative of the College of Liberal Arts to develop courses with integrated, structured community-based opportunities for students that are connected to course learning objectives.

• These courses will receive a CEL designation from the Registrar’s Office and will appear as such on students’ transcripts.

• All courses with the CEL designation will be eligible to count towards a future 12-hour CEL Certificate Program.
To strengthen students’ understanding of their role in society as engaged citizens.

To build the knowledge and competencies that will enable students to be socially responsible and participating community leaders.

To expand the learning experience beyond in-class critical-thinking and discussions.
Benefits

For Students:
• Engage with the community.
• Gain valuable experience and expertise in community-engaged and leadership activities.
• Make positive contributions to society.
• Have CEL course on transcript to demonstrate to recruiters and employers looking for talented graduates.
Benefits

For Faculty:

- Engage with the community.
- Invigorate curriculum.
- Fine-tune teaching and research skills in line with the Boyer model of scholarship.
- Maximize evaluation and recognition of work.
Benefits

For Community:
• Participate in a mutually beneficial, reciprocal relationship that helps to serve a need through but not limited to:
  • community-based internships
  • outreach
  • capacity-building and mentoring
  • field-based learning
  • student teaching
  • community-based research
• Increase awareness about community issues.
• Connect with UTEP students and faculty to help solve problems, make use of resources, and fulfill key services.
Who are some of the community partners?

While some faculty choose to develop their partnerships directly with key organizations, an increasing number of faculty and organizations are now also working in conjunction with UTEP’s Center for Community Engagement through the Community-University-Engagement (CUE) Portal (see: https://utep.galaxydigital.com/).

Following is a sample of some of the agencies recently working with the Center for Community Engagement to partner with faculty and students using the CUE:

• The Opportunity Center for the Homeless
• Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas
• Central El Paso Community Organization (CEPCO)
• El Paso Zoo Society
• YWCA El Paso del Norte Region
• Military Veteran Peer Network
How can students register for CEL courses?

1. Speak with your advisor about CEL courses offered in the course catalog when planning your semester schedule.
2. Look for courses with the CEL designation, such as:

   - HIST 5390 (CEL)
   - ENGL 3374 (CEL)
   - POLS 4315 (CEL)
How can faculty obtain the CEL designation for their courses?

1. Review the Faculty Syllabus Design Guide, the CEL Application Form, and the CEL Signature Form. These can be accessed from the College of Liberal Arts website https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/resources/faculty-staff-resources/cel/index.html

2. Update your syllabus to reflect the design guidelines.

3. Complete the CEL Application Form.

4. Complete the CEL Signature Form (with applicable signatures at the department level).

5. Submit syllabus, CEL Application Form, and CEL Signature Form to the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office attention to Associate Dean Crystal Herman: gherman2@utep.edu.
Further Information and Guidance

• Faculty, advisors, and students interested in CEL courses may contact:
  • Associate Dean Crystal Herman (gherman2@utep.edu)
  • Dr. José Villalobos (jdvillalobos2@utep.edu)

• Register for upcoming community engagement workshops and training sessions.

• For more general guidance and links to key resources online, please visit the CEL webpage at: https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/resources/faculty-staff-resources/cel/index.html
2020-2021 CEL Task Force and Review Committee

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- José De Jesus Villalobos - UTEP Distinguished Teaching Professor, Associate Professor of Political Science

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- Andrea L. Shaheen - Musicology Area Coordinator, Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology
- Angel J. Cabrales - Assistant Professor of Sculpture
- Areli Chacón Silva - Director of Leadership and Community Engagement Program
- Azuri Gonzalez - Director of UTEP's Center for Community Engagement
- Crystal Herman - Associate Dean for the College of Liberal Arts, Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee Chair, Associate Professor of Costume Design
- Cynthia Marentes - Director of Community Engagement for the College of Liberal Arts Dean's Office
- Guillermina Gina Núñez-Mchiri - Director of Women's and Gender Studies, Associate Professor of Anthropology
- Isabel Baca - Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Director of Bilingual Professional Writing Certificate, Director of Community Writing Partners Program
- Jeremy Slack - Provost's CCE Faculty Fellow, Assistant Professor of Geography
- Josiah M. Heyman - Director, Center for Inter-American and Border Studies, Professor of Anthropology
- Julio D. Rogers - Director of Advising C.L.A.S.S. Center/BMS/BAAS for the College of Liberal Arts Dean's Office
- Yolanda Chávez Leyva - Director of the Institute of Oral History, Associate Professor of History
Thank you!