

Experiential Learning Idea List

Getting involved and gaining experience will help you make new friends, build skills, add to your resume, and gain valuable personal insight. The following list will get you brainstorming about the many ways you can get experience!

- **MU clubs and organizations:** Mizzou has an amazing variety of student organizations. Visit [Engage](#) to search through the hundreds of options available to you!
- **Research:** Even as an undergraduate, you can participate in intellectual discovery through hands-on research. Review student information and FAQs in the [Office of Undergraduate Research](#).
- **Internships:** This is a professional learning experience that can be paid, unpaid or for credit. You can search for internships several ways. First, you can contact employers and look at their web sites to see if they have internship programs. If not, ask if they'd be willing to take an intern. Second, check [internship-specific sites](#) as well as the employment website, [Handshake](#). Third, many MU Schools and Colleges sponsor internship programs so check with your department or advisor about internship options. Finally, you can earn course credit through the [Civic Leaders Internship Program](#) if you want to work in a state government office or non-profit agency.
- **Informational Interviews/Job Shadowing:** Get insight into the challenges and rewards of an occupation from someone who does it every day. Meet with local professionals, family members, friends, professors, or MU alumni and ask questions about their career path and daily life. Review the [Guide to Job Shadowing and Informational Interviewing](#) for details on how to get started!
- **Community Service/Volunteer Work:** Gain experience while making a positive impact and finding personal satisfaction. You can find one-time and ongoing service opportunities by visiting [MUServes](#) or [Service@Mizzou](#). Finally, you can search for volunteer opportunities in the Columbia community through the [Voluntary Action Center](#) or [City of Columbia](#). To find volunteer work elsewhere in Missouri, the U.S. or abroad, look at [Idealist.org](#).
- **Leadership positions:** Make a commitment to an organization that interests you or take advantage of MU's [Leadership Development Program](#).
- **Part-time jobs:** You can gain valuable experience and skills while earning money. Activate your profile on [HireMizzouTigers.com](#), powered by Handshake, to search for on-campus jobs.
- **Academic classes:** It's the best way to see whether you really enjoy a subject. Start browsing the course listings and ask friends for their recommendations of classes that might shape your career interests.
- **Study abroad:** How often do you get the chance to drop everything and run off to another country for a few months? Learn about the hundreds of study abroad programs from the [MU International Center](#).
- **Service learning:** Broaden your education by becoming an active part of the community as part of your coursework. Students may also earn academic credit for service work by signing up for a class through the [MU Office of Service Learning](#).