* Accounting for Experience

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Kolb's Cycle of Experiential Learning

Active Experimentation: testing new ideas, honing skills in a new experience

Concrete Experience Concrete Experience: engaging directly in authentic situation

Active Experimentation

Abstract Conceptualization: distilling perceptions into abstract concepts. Abstract Conceptualization Reflective Observation

Reflective Observation: Noticing what happened, relating to past experience and conceptual *What is experiential learning?

- 1. Study trips: In and out of the curriculum
 - * FirstBridge (FYE) and other courses
- 2. Students doing research in directed studies
 - * Students working on scholarly publications like the Cahiers series
 - * Research in the Environmental Science Center
- **3.** Senior projects that are visible capstones
- **4.** Internships
- 5. Courses that are hands-on and project-based
 - * AUP Student Media courses: print and digital magazine
 - * Mapping projects that connect Paris to the classroom
 - * Paris-based courses

*What is AUP currently doing?

*What are we developing now?

*Desired improvements

- **1.** Affordability for students: How to build costs into tuition?
- 2. Accounting for extra work for faculty: Give teaching credit to faculty?
- 3. Integration into the curriculum so that they become creditbearing?



*Desired improvements:

- 1. Making research more visible on student transcripts: Creation of a new course code in Mentored Research
- 2. Making a firmer distinction between Directed Studies (a course that isn't offered in the curriculum) vs. an experiential based learning activity that is Mentored Research
- **3.** How to recognize faculty investment?



*Desired improvements:

- 1. Integrate capstones into all majors
- 2. Create a self-reflective digital portfolio as a capstone in the Core Curriculum

*Senior projects that are visible capstones

*Desired Improvements:

- 1. Offer more internships at all levels, across majors.
- 2. Improve our Paris-based network of intern employers
- 3. Encourage student planning of internships and other experiential learning through the GPS program (see presentation by Linda Martz and Robbie Robinson in the Gallery)



* Desired improvements:

- 1. More two-credit courses that focus on career development and planning, or life design
- 2. Creation of a Digital Literacy component in the Core Curriculum
- **3.** Discussion of a Maker's club and designated space
- 4. More initiatives in the digital humanities, with institutional support for IT
- 5. Creation of a Learning Commons to support student group work and provide space for mentoring
- 6. Encouraging more off-site learning

*Courses that are hands-on and project based