May 2021

LINKING EXPERIENCE, ACADEMICS and PRACTICE (LEAP)
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Linking Experience, Academics and Practice (LEAP) News
The Linking Experience, Academics and Practice (LEAP) program provides students with customized major and career exploration, intensive academic advisement, and access to experiential learning opportunities such as campus-based leadership, community service and internships. LEAP supports second-semester freshmen through their sophomore year.

Our Voices

Learning and Doing: ELOs in Action. Johanna Molina, LEAP Peer Advisor
LEAP Peer Advisor (and LEAP student) Johanna Molina felt applying for another Experiential Learning Opportunity would be overwhelming, between full-time coursework and being a student leader. But with the support of her LEAP Team, Johanna applied for the Justice Capital Initiative Fellowship and got it! Johanna is working for the Times Square Alliance. One of her projects is to update the manuals used in training new Public Safety Officers. “I personally enjoy this internship because the first manual that I worked on was the homeless manual which is explaining what a homeless person is and why people become homeless. In the manual I also included the type of resources and support that can be given to the homeless and the locations of each. Then I also work on how the public safety officers can communicate with the homeless and how to interact with them.” In addition to the valuable experience, Johanna is receiving three college credits and building her resume. Johanna’s advice: If you have the opportunity to join any experiential learning opportunity, whether it’s a part-time job, internship, or a volunteer experience, go for it!

Industry & Skills

Want That Dream Job? First, Consider an Internship. Colin Wiggins, LEAP Senior Academic Advisor
“Internship experience is the most influential factor employers consider when deciding between two otherwise equally qualified job candidates,” according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers’ Job Outlook 2021 Spring Update. Employers responding to a survey of hiring projections for the class of 2021 said that internship engagement is the most important consideration in hiring, especially if a student has interned with the organization that is hiring. Students’ majors, leadership positions, work experience, and club participation are also valued. Worried about your GPA? Only 56.6% of the 207 employer respondents said that they screen candidates based on GPA, down from 75% two years ago. There are lots of options for both learning experiences outside of the classroom and resources to help you get academic support. Scheduling a meeting with your LEAP Advisor or Peer Mentor is the first step on your path to a successful future! Email LEAP@jjay.cuny.edu for help making an appointment.

Experiential Learning Opportunities & Resources

Breakthrough Tech New York Summer Guild is a FREE, virtual computer science program for students entering their first or second year at CUNY. In just one week, students will explore computer science, learn to code and build a website, meet professionals and discover careers in tech, and join a community of other CUNY students. Click Here for more information. Deadline: May 7th.

Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP) is seeking two paid summer interns to support their Community Education and Youth Education programs and communications efforts. CUP is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement in partnership with marginalized communities, provides individuals with the tools to claim their rights, advocate for their needs, and fight for social justice. Click here for more information. Deadline: May 12th.

Visit our webpage for more opportunities!