Blog Learning Project* – Silver Level of Recognition

Purpose: The Blog Learning Project provides students with the opportunity to utilize written language to clearly and effectively tell a story about one of their UIC Experiences. The written blog will perform three functions: 1) describe the nature of the UIC Experience in which the student participated; 2) articulate why the experience had meaning, what was learned, and why this significant to the student; and 3) persuade another student to attempt the same UIC Experience. The blog will utilize written language to convey meaning.

Instructions for the Blog Learning Project:

The Blog Learning Project is an exercise in writing, so photos, videos, or audio components should not be used. (The Visual Learning Project is available for use of photos, and the Vlog Learning Project is available for use of video/audio.)

The Blog Learning Project will consist of written language, titles, headers, and graphics.

The Blog Learning Project should have three components in its message: 1) a description of the nature of the UIC Experience in which you participated; 2) an explanation of why the experience had meaning, what was learned, and why this significant to you; and 3) a persuasive speech as to why another student should attempt the same UIC Experience.

The length of the piece should range from 300 to 600 word count and should consist of three paragraphs or three topic areas depending on how the blog is constructed.

The Blog Learning Project needs to contain a title of the blog and three subheadings (one subheading for each of the three components of the message.) Titles and subheadings should be descriptive and short, contain key terms, and quickly describe the main point of the blog or section of the blog. (Good title tags help to clarify meaning for your reader and help to optimize hits for your blog in Google and other search engines.)

Suggestions for a stronger blog submission:

Readers of blogs may only read a blog for 15 to 30 seconds. Write and organize your blog to capture and hold the reader’s attention. Organize your blog with clear titles and headers so that meaning is conveyed quickly, easily, and clearly. Describe your UIC Experience so that you convince your reader to try the same experience.

See the last page of these instructions for a sample Blog Learning Project for ideas about layout and the use of titles, headers, and graphics.

*Complete a Learning Project and be eligible to be selected for a Book and Technology Recognition Award.

Deadline for submitting Learning Projects is the Friday of the 14th week of fall or spring semesters. Email your Learning Project as an attachment to uicexperience@uic.edu. Remember that you need to document all 6 experiences online to finish your application to earn your certification. For more information email uicexperience@uic.edu.

- Must complete and return The UIC Experience Learning Project Public Display Consent Form with the Learning Project Submission.
- Only one learning project may be submitted per semester per six experiences or theme.
- Students may be selected for only one UIC Experience Learning Project Monetary Recognition Award per semester.
UIC Experience Learning Project
Public Display Consent Form

Signing this Consent Form means that you have given the University, including its employees, contractors and representatives, permission to select your UIC Experience Learning Project and its photos, videos, and oral and written language/text to be displayed in any format or medium, including as set forth below.

I/We, the undersigned, hereby knowingly authorize the use, sale, distribution, publication and reproduction in perpetuity of any and all such photographs, motion pictures, videotapes, electronic recordings, or any other medium or format now known or later invented, which have been taken of me or of those I represent for any educational or promotional purpose, including but not limited to (1) electronic publication on the University of Illinois or UIC websites (2) for use/publication in the University or UIC publications and/or newsletters (published either electronically and posted on the website or on paper and distributed freely), (3) for use in displays or advertisements promoting the University and/or any of its programs and (4) for any other educational or promotional purpose, publication, instructional situation or similar endeavor. I further understand that the University of Illinois will be unable to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access to the Internet/World Wide Web or successor electronic medium and the University websites and, as such, will be unable to prevent the copying, alteration or republication of my image. I understand and agree that I will not be compensated in any way for the use of said images and all photographs, negatives, film reels, transparencies, and/or digital files or other mediums, their content, and all copyrights or other intellectual property rights therein shall be the sole property of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.

My authorization includes the modification or retouching of such images as the University deems necessary or appropriate.

If you have pictures of others or write about others in your learning project, please respect their right to privacy and secure their names/signatures to authorize you to utilize their images or to tell their stories (ie. the mentoring blog project).
I/We hereby release, indemnify and forever discharge The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, its trustees, officers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors, and assigns of and from any and all claims and/or damages arising out of or in any way connected with the taking, use, sale, distribution publication and/or reproduction of my images or of those I represent.

I/We represent that I am/We are over eighteen (18) years of age or older.

_________________________________________  __________________________
Signature of person in submitting UIC Experience Learning Project       DATE

_________________________________________
Print Name Clearly   UIC NET ID

Please check: ___Visual Learning Project; ___Blog Learning Project;
___Vlog Learning Project; ___Mentoring Blog Learning Project

_____ Initial here if you choose to OPT OUT of having your UIC Experience Learning Project publicly displayed. You may still submit your learning project to earn The UIC Experience Certification, but your learning project will not be displayed publicly.

**NAMES AND SIGNATURES, AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO USE YOUR PHOTO OR TO TELL YOUR UIC EXPERIENCE STORY FOR A UIC EXPERIENCE LEARNING PROJECT:**

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EMAIL THIS FORM TO UICEXPERIENCE@UIC.EDU.
Why I Sail

Sailing is my life. I started sailing at summer camp when I was a little girl and since then it has become my deepest passion. I grew up in a small town whose most prominent feature was a lake. I was extremely nervous moving to a big city like Chicago to go to college. I knew everyone in my high school back home and was not sure how I could fit in to such a large community like UIC. Then I found the UIC Sailing Team by the advice of my freshman advisor. The moment I met the sailing team, I knew that I had found my new home.

“Hark, now hear the sailors cry, smell the sea, and feel the sky let your soul & spirit fly, into the mystic...”

-Van Morrison
Northern Irish, author, singer, poet, and song writer,

The UIC Sailing Team

The UIC Sailing Team practices on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Their goal is to introduce UIC students to the sport of sailing as well as advance the skills of already accomplished sailors at the school. They compete with schools around the Midwest with the goal of qualifying for National Championships. The training is rigorous, but you get to meet a lot of nice people who are as devoted as you and will push you to be the best that you can be (with a few laughs on the side here and there.)

The Joys of the Journey

I would recommend joining the UIC Sailing team to any student who is looking for a community to be a part of. The physical exercise keeps one in shape, and you can make friends that can last a lifetime. There is no greater joy than feeling the wind in you hair as you ride out on the lake, looking at the skyline, and knowing that you are home.