

# MENU OF CONTEXTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

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## Aurora Public Schools Menu of Contextual Learning Experiences for Students



### Employment

- Opportunities for paid work experience



### Internships

- A temporary work experience that focuses on providing an intern with the relevant knowledge and skills necessary for gaining employment in a specific field.
- Supervised / unsupervised experience
- 3-4 hours a week, lasting 6-8 weeks



### Externships

- A temporary work experience that focuses on providing an intern with the relevant knowledge and skills necessary for gaining employment in a specific field.
- Supervised experience
- 1-2 hours a week, lasting 3-4 weeks



### Job Shadowing

- Short-term exposure to a particular job or career



### Community and Service Learning

- Structured learning experience that combines community service with preparation and reflection
- Varying lengths of time from one time to ongoing



### Certification

- Educational opportunities that allow students to earn certificates that attest to mastery of essential work-related knowledge and skills
- Certificates are recognized by the business community as a standard of excellence and accomplishment



### Workshops and Seminars

- Opportunities to learn and practice career / content knowledge and skills
- Short-term



### Summer Programs and Camps

- Opportunities to learn and practice career / content knowledge and skills
- Short-term



### Challenge-Based Learning

- A constructivist student-centered instructional strategy in which students collaboratively solve problems and reflect on their experiences.



### Simulations

- Acting out or mimicking an actual or probable real life condition, event, or situation.



### Field Experiences

- A variety of field-based opportunities in which students and staff may observe, assist, and/or conduct research.



### Mentorships

- Career-based mentoring provides students the opportunity to get a glimpse of the world of work that may not otherwise be available to them, through in-person and online mentoring relationships.



### Guest Speakers

- A career or content area expert invited to share insights and expertise in their related field of experience.

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