



FIRE

TOOL  KIT



Experiential
Learning
Requirement

ELON
UNIVERSITY





ABOUT THE FIRE TOOLKIT

The Facilitating Integration and Reflection of the Elon Experiences (FIRE) Toolkit:

- Promotes self-reflection and mentoring conversations among students, staff and faculty to enhance students' Elon Experiences.
- Supports undergraduates in fulfilling the university's requirement of two units of experiential learning, which includes internships, global engagement, research, service and leadership.

HOW TO USE THE TOOLKIT

- **Students:** Use these questions to reflect on and discuss your preferred Elon Experiences. Engage with peers about future or completed ELRs.
- **Staff and Faculty:** Select questions to discuss with advisees, student workers and peers to facilitate reflection on their Elon Experiences and their alignment with broader educational goals.
- Questions? Email jmoore28@elon.edu or millerp@elon.edu.

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**Across your Elon Experiences:
Pre-Experience Reflection**



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Across your Elon Experiences: Pre-Experience Reflection

1

CONSIDER

- What Elon Experience(s) do you think you'd like to pursue and why?
- How might the Elon Experience(s) support your learning and career interests?
- How will the Elon Experiences help you in your Elon path and in your life path?
- In what ways do the Elon Experiences speak to you intellectually?
- What are your personal and educational goals for your Elon Experiences?



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**Across your Elon Experiences:
During-Experience Reflection**



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Across your Elon Experiences: During-Experience Reflection

2

CONSIDER

- How will the Elon Experiences help you in your Elon path and in your life path?
- How does your Elon Experience shape what you do, who you interact with, and how you view your community(s)?
- How might this experience influence your curricular choices (classes, major, minor, etc.)?
- How do the Elon Experiences intersect with your other (curricular, co-curricular, extra-curricular) experiences?
- What challenges have you encountered during your Elon Experience and what have you learned from those challenges?

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**Across your Elon Experiences:
Post-Experience Reflection**



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Across your Elon Experiences: Post-Experience Reflection

3

CONSIDER

- How did your Elon Experience(s) challenge you to learn and grow?
- How might your Elon Experience(s) inform your personal and professional life beyond Elon?
- How might this experience inform your practices beyond Elon?
- How do your Elon Experiences connect with your personal and educational expectations and goals?
- How did your Elon Experience compare to your pre-experience expectations for it?
- If you were asked to provide a narrative of your Elon education, how would you connect your Elon Experience(s) to the story?

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Internships

Pre-Experience Reflection



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Internships Pre-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- As you look ahead to your internship, how do you understand your role and responsibilities at the internship site?
- What are your goals for your internship experience? What skills do you hope to develop, or what experiences do you hope to gain, during your internship?
- How might you collaborate with your internship site supervisor and your faculty mentor to work towards achieving those personal or professional goals (e.g., new skills or experiences)?
- How will you self-assess your progress towards meeting your personal or professional goals?

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Internships

During-Experience Reflection



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Internships During-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- How does this internship experience relate to what you have learned elsewhere?
- What challenges have you encountered at your internship site, and what strategies have you tried using to navigate those challenges?
- How does your internship experience align with or challenge your academic knowledge?
- How successful have you been so far at meeting your internship responsibilities, and what strategies have contributed to your success?
- What have you learned so far at your internship site that will inform your internship work in the weeks to come?

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Internships

Post-Experience Reflection



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Internships Post-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What did you learn – about yourself or your field of study – during your internship experience?
- In what ways were you successful at your internship site, and what strategies or practices contributed to your success?
- In what ways were you challenged by your internship experience?
- Based on your internship experience, what else would you like to learn to advance in your professional field or related areas?

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Undergraduate Research Pre-Experience Reflection



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Undergraduate Research Pre-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What would you like to gain by pursuing a research experience?
- How have your courses interested you and led you to consider a research experience?
- How do you think a research experience would add to your time at Elon and time after Elon?
- What preconceptions do you have about undergraduate research?
- What is your major and do you think you'd like to pursue research in that major?
- What characteristics and qualities are important to you in identifying a faculty mentor?

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Undergraduate Research During-Experience Reflection



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Undergraduate Research During-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- How has your research experience deepened your interest in your major? Your career interests?
- How have your courses and career interests informed your research experience?
- How has your research experience connected you with others who have challenged you to learn and grow?
- What have you learned about yourself and what skills have you developed as a result of undertaking a research project?
- How will you talk about the value of your research experience when you go on job/grad school interviews?

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Undergraduate Research

Post-Experience Reflection



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Undergraduate Research Post-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- How was your research experience during your time at Elon both beneficial and valuable?
- As you look back on your research experience, what were the prominent challenges you faced and how did you overcome these challenges?
- What qualities and skills were you able to develop as a result of undertaking a research project and how do you see yourself using these skills in the future?

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Global Engagement

(STUDY ABROAD/STUDY USA)

Pre-Experience Reflection



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Global Engagement (Study Abroad/Study USA) Pre-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What are your goals (academic, personal, or professional) for your study away experience? What experiences do you hope to have, and what skills do you hope to develop, during your study away?
- Why are you picking the location where you want to study away?
- What cultural differences do you anticipate encountering during your study away experience?
- How do you think you will be challenged – both personally and academically – by a study away experience? How might you prepare yourself for those challenges?

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Global Engagement

(STUDY ABROAD/STUDY USA)

During-Experience Reflection



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Global Engagement (Study Abroad/Study USA) During-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- How does this study away experience relate to what you have learned elsewhere (e.g., in courses in your major, in courses you took for the Core Curriculum, at internships, etc.)?
- What cultural differences have you encountered during your study away experience?
- What has your study away experience so far pointed out to you about your own attitudes, beliefs, and values?
- What are you finding challenging about your study away experience, and what strategies have you tried to make sense of or to navigate those challenges?

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Global Engagement

(STUDY ABROAD/STUDY USA)
Post-Experience Reflection



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Global Engagement (Study Abroad/Study USA) Post-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What did you learn – about yourself, your host country, or your field of study – during your study away?
- What surprised you about your study away experience?
- What cultural differences did you encounter during your study away experience, and what did those differences help you understand about your own attitudes, beliefs, and values?
- What skills did you develop or strengthen as a result of your study away experience?
- What will you do in the future to build on your study away experience?

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Service

(COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING)

Pre-Experience Reflection



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Service (Community-based Learning) Pre-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What do you know about your potential community partner, and what do you hope to learn about this community partner and/or the people the organization serves?
- What assumptions are you making about your potential community partner and the people the organization serves?
- What assumptions might your service community partner and the people the organization serves make about you?
- What are your goals for your community-based learning experience? What skills do you hope to develop, or what experiences do you hope to gain, during your service?

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Service

(COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING)

During-Experience Reflection



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Service (Community-based Learning) During-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- How does your service experience at your community partner relate to what you are learning in your community-based learning class? How does it relate to what you have learned elsewhere (in other courses, from other service experiences, etc.)?
- How has your experience compared to the assumptions you held about your community partner before starting your service?
- How successful have you been so far at meeting your responsibilities to your community partner, and what strategies have contributed to your success?
- What have you learned so far that will inform your continuing work with your community partner?

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Service

(COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING)

Post-Experience Reflection



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Service (Community-based Learning) Post-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What did you learn – about yourself or your field of study – during your service experience?
- In what ways were you successful at meeting your commitments to your community partner, and what strategies or practices contributed to your success?
- In what ways were you challenged by your service experience?
- Based on your service experience, what else would you like to learn to advance in your professional field or related areas? What will you do in the future to build on this service experience?

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Leadership

Pre-Experience Reflection



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Leadership Pre-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- What is it about leadership at Elon that piques your interest?
- What personal values are important to you?
- In what ways might participating in leadership at Elon shape those values?
- What is the connection between your values and your identify?
- How does your sense of self influence and inform your interactions with others at Elon?
- How are the actions and responsibilities of an individual related to the actions and responsibilities of a group? How might they differ?

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Leadership

During-Experience Reflection



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Leadership During-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- Has participating in leadership at Elon helped you to understand and operationalize your personal values in a different way?
- As your personal values develop, what impact have they had on the various aspect of your identity as a leader (given and chosen)?
- How has participating in leadership influenced and informed your interactions with others at Elon?
- How have your interactions with others at Elon influenced and informed your understanding of leadership?
- How has your sense of responsibility informed your actions and interactions?

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Leadership

Post-Experience Reflection



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Leadership Post-Experience Reflection



CONSIDER

- How did your leadership experience inform your interactions with the community?
- How do you see your leadership experiences informing your interactions with the community moving forward?
- How do the skills and abilities that stemmed from your leadership experience deepen your understanding of your coursework, other Elon experiences, and career interests? How do these interactions show up in your day-to-day life?
- How did your leadership experience help you deepen your understanding of society and communities?

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