



GEM (Greensburg Experience More) Program

Guidelines and Program Overview

Pitt Greensburg's GEM (Greensburg Experience More) program is designed to provide students with a co-curricular experience that will complement and enhance their classroom learning. Participants will engage in structured professional and personal skill development across five core components, which include required core requirements and a variety of electives. Each component is designed to challenge students and help them grow personally and professionally. The skills students develop through GEM are broadly applicable to work and academic situations and marketable to future employers.

Timeline for Completion

STEP 1: Attend a GEM Kick-Off event

The kick-off event is held during the third week of classes in both the fall and spring semesters. In addition to satisfying a GEM requirement, the kick-off will provide important information about how the GEM program works and give students a chance to meet other GEM participants.

STEP 2: Complete GEM requirements and electives

The program is designed to be completed in two to four academic years. The activities and programs that satisfy GEM requirements occur throughout the fall and spring semesters. Some events are scheduled only once or twice per year. Others are available all year, but require advanced scheduling. Students are encouraged to plan ahead and allow adequate time to complete all of the requirements.

STEP 3: Track completion of GEM requirements and electives

Participants will track their completion of the GEM requirements using Engage, Pitt Greensburg's online co-curricular transcript system, which is accessed using the Pitt portal. For events that are not automatically tracked in CollegiateLink, students are required to self-report their participation and complete a short reflection in CollegiateLink.

STEP 4: Apply for GEM completion

A GEM Completion Applications can be submitted at any time. However, for those students who would like to receive recognition at Honors Convocation or Commencement, applications must be received by the Friday prior to spring break.

STEP 5: GEM Reflection Meeting

As a student approaches the conclusion of the program they will meet with one of the coordinating staff to discuss and reflect on their GEM experience

Additional Important Guidelines

- A student may be permitted to complete the program in less than two years. However, consultation with the GEM staff is strongly recommended in order to determine an appropriate timeline for completing all of the requirements.
- Both the core requirements and electives for each component can only be completed while enrolled as a student at Pitt-Greensburg. At this time, the GEM program is not intended for transfer to another institution, including any of the other University of Pittsburgh campuses.
- Staff are available for consultation throughout a student's journey toward completion of the program. Students who successfully complete the program will receive recognition at Pitt Greensburg's annual Honors Convocation and graduation ceremony.

For more information and assistance:

Office of Student Services: 219 Chambers Hall * 724-836-7869

OR

The GEM Steering Committee:

Troy Ross, Director of Housing and Residence Life

Beth Tiedemann, Registrar and Director of Academic Advising

Brian Root, Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life

Haley Hayden, Assistant Director of the Academic Village & Student Involvement

Al Thiel, Director of Student Involvement

Dorothy Zilic, Director of Career Services



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Program Overview: Requirements and Electives

(All core requirements and electives for each component can only be completed while a student at Pitt-Greensburg. Experience or programs prior to enrollment will not count toward completion in order to emphasize the connection between in the classroom learning and out of classroom experiences.)

A. Leadership Development

Learning Outcome: Students will be exposed to a variety of leadership skills and situations to help them define their leadership style. Students will learn how to be active leaders, and learn how to lead as well as to follow.

Targeted Skills Areas: Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization, Ability to work in a team structure, Ability to make decisions and solve problems, Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize work, Ability to motivate individuals and groups to perform, set goals and follow through, Ability to delegate tasks and responsibilities

Core Requirements — *complete all core requirements*

LD1: Serve as at least one of the following:

- Community Assistant
- Commuter Mentor
- Officer in Club or Organization
- Peer Leader
- Student Government Association Senator
- Team Captain (Intramurals or club sport)
- Team Captain (NCAA)

LD2: Attend annual on-campus Fall Leadership Conference

LD3: Attend a Student Organization Transition Seminar

Electives (LD4e, LD5e) — *complete at least two electives from the list below*

- Attend annual Cobetto Lecture on Ethics
- Complete Advanced Leadership Program
- Complete Emerging Leaders Program
- Participate in a Student Government Association Budget Extravaganza
- Participate in an off campus leadership program or conference
- Participate in ROTC or another armed services while a student
- Present at Transition Seminar or Leadership Conference
- Serve as an officer of a regional or national organization
- Start a registered student organization

B. Service

Learning Outcome: To gain an appreciation of and understanding of serving others in the community around them, as well as begin a lifelong commitment to service & ethics.

Targeted Skill Areas: Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization, Use integrity in decision-making, Display understanding of and respect for people from diverse backgrounds, Analyze life experiences for growth or change, Develop personal moral code

Core Requirements – *complete all core requirements*

S1: Complete at least 40 hours of community service during enrollment at Pitt Greensburg

S2: Participate in at least one semi-annual Into the Streets Program

S3: Participate in at least two traditional one day on campus service programs (pick from below)

- *College Day (Clelian Heights)*
- *Creek Clean-Up*
- *Hallow-Boo*
- *Jeannette Head Start Christmas Program*
- *JDRF Walk*
- *Jingle Jam*
- *MLK Day of Service*
- *Read for Life Long Learning*
- *Other*

Electives (S4e, S5e) - *complete at least two electives from the list below*

- Be an active member of an on campus service organization (Habitat for Humanity, Circle K, OACS, American Red Cross, etc.....)
- Lead an on or off campus service project
- Participate in an Alternative Spring Break Trip (Habitat for Humanity, Mission Trip, etc....)
- Participate in an on-campus focus group or committee
- Provide note-taking services for Learning Resource Center
- Serve as a Student Advocate
- Serve as a Presidential Ambassador
- Serve as a volunteer for a political campaign
- Serve as a volunteer for an off campus non-profit service group/program (Meals on Wheels, religiously affiliated group, volunteer firefighter, etc...)
- Serve as an Admissions Pitt Pal
- Serve as an International student mentor
- Serve on the Judicial Board
- Volunteer at an on or off campus voter registration drive

C. Career Development

Learning Outcome: To develop career awareness and professional skills, as well as the knowledge of specific career preparation strategies in order to be competitive in gaining employment or acceptance into graduate or professional school.

Target Skill Areas: Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization, Technical knowledge related to their career field, Design and implement plans of action, Analyze life experiences for growth or change, Identify, describe, and assess needs, values, interests, strengths, and weaknesses of self

Core Requirements – *complete all core requirements*

CD1: Complete at least one individual meeting with Career Services (resume critique, career planning, etc....)

CD2: Attend one career-related event (Mock Interview night, the Graduate and Professional School Fair, a job/internship/career fair on or off campus such as WestPACS, Pitt Fall or Spring Career Fair, WANT Job & Career Expo, etc....)

CD3: Develop a resume and post it on Pitt Greensburg job system

CD4: Complete one of the following experiential learning options:

- Volunteer for at least 20 hours in a field of interest
- Complete an internship (credit or non-credit)
- Participate in at least 15 hours of job shadowing experience
- Conduct a research project beyond the standard capstone/senior research requirement
- Serve as a Teaching Assistant for a semester
- Work for at least three months in a job that is related to your major or intended career field
- Serve as a Green Scholar

Electives (CD5e, CD6e, CD7e) - *complete at least three electives from the list below*

- Assist with the Quest Career Camp or SSME
- Attend a noontime information session sponsored by Career Services
- Attend a professional conference on or off campus
- Attend Mock Interview Night (if not used for core requirements)
- Complete a career assessment offered by the Office of Career Services
- Complete a one-credit career exploration course (e.g. INDSIT 0004)
- Complete an independent study with a professor
- Develop a profile including a network of professional contacts on LinkedIn
- Participate in a club or organization related to your major for at least one semester
- Participate in the annual resume contest
- Present at an on or off-campus conference
- Serve as a student research assistant for one of the following (may be used more than once):
 - Center for Applied Research
 - Center for the Advancement of Teaching (CFAR)
 - Digital Humanities
 - Digital Media
- Work a part-time job for a minimum of six months while enrolled
- Work as a lab assistant for one semester
- Work/volunteer as a tutor for the Learning Resource Center

D. Cultural Awareness and Appreciation

Learning Outcome: Students will gain a deeper understanding of themselves and how their cultural perspective affected their world view. Students will come to value and appreciate the diversity and culture in their lives.

Target Skill Areas: Ability to analyze culture experience for personal growth or change, Create visually intriguing and skilled designs, displays, or works of art, Display understanding of, and respect for, people from diverse backgrounds, Develop personal moral code, Demonstrate flexibility and commitment to change and learning

Core Requirements – *complete all core requirements*

CAA1: Participate in at least one of the following on campus Visual and Performing Arts programs

- Theater Production (performer, stage crew, front of house crew, volunteer, etc...)
- On-campus media event (submit to Spring Art Show, submit to Pendulum, participate in on-campus open Mic Night, discussion leader for film series selection, write an article for the Insider, etc...)
- Be a Chorale member

CAA2: Complete or Lead a Social Justice Training

- Complete one of the following:
 - Allies Training
 - FAME/Blackburn Center Training
- Lead the following:
 - Bystander Training

CAA3: Participation in at least one of the following

- Complete a University approved Study Abroad program
- Participate in the Black History Month Media Contest
- Lead an on-campus discussion of a cultural topic or event (*CAFT discussion, Group Event, etc...*)
- Attend a University sponsored guided museum outing
- Present at a University sponsored multicultural program
- Organize an on-campus cultural event

CAA4: Attend one of the following

- University sponsored Theatre production
- Organization sponsored production (*Vagina Monologues, Red Eye Theater, Broadway Battles Breast Cancer, etc...*)
- Chorale Concert
- President's Diversity Committee sponsored program

Electives (CAA5e, CAA6e) – *complete at least two electives from the list below*

- Attend an on campus music event (Friday Night Music, Department Music Events, etc...)
- Attend an off campus performance (Westmoreland Symphony, Palace Theatre production, etc...)
- Attend annual Spring Art Show
- Be an active member of a multicultural based organization
- Be an active member of a visual or performing arts organization
- Participate in annual Greensburg Unity Celebration
- Participate in the annual Millstein Library One Book Event
- Participate in an Arts Trip (multiple museums/venues in one trip)
- Participate in at least one of the following social justice events/programs
 - Participate in "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes"
 - Participate in a La Femme Event
 - Participate in an Environmental Club Event
 - Attend the annual Soul Food Dinner

E. Pitt Greensburg Pride & Traditions

Learning Outcome: Students will participate in campus events and gain an appreciation for Pitt-Greensburg traditions and school spirit. Students' campus engagement will also serve as a catalyst for a broader sense of pride for one's community.

Target Skill Areas: Ability to understand and build on historic perspective in an organization, Demonstrate self-motivation, Exhibit a positive attitude, Manage time efficiently and effectively through scheduling and prioritizing, Understand and work within the group culture

Core Requirements – *complete all core requirements*

PT1: Attend a home opener or playoff Athletic contest

PT2: Participate in an event during Blue & Gold: Homecoming Week

PT3: Attend the annual Activities Fair

PT4: Attend two of the following

- Student Government Senate Meeting
- Student Government House Meeting
- Student Activities Board General Meeting
- Academic Village Senate Meeting
- Resident Student Council Meeting

PT5: Attend two of the following student recognition events

- GEM Induction Ceremony
- Honors Convocation
- Leadership Recognition Ceremony
- Scholar Athlete Breakfast or Student Athlete Banquet (may only use one of these)

Electives (PT6e, PT7e) - *complete at least two electives from the list below*

- Assist with an Admission Event/Program (Discovery Day, Admitted Students Day, etc....)
- Attend Up All Night
- NCAA Team member
- Participate in annual Hall Olympics
- Participate or attend annual Student Government Association Charity Game
- Pitt Day in Harrisburg
- Represent the University at a community event
- Serve as Bruiser for an event
- Attend the Big Bang