

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

This is not necessarily about work so much as it is about life experiences... *any experiences!* It's based on any kind of **Life Experience** that occurred after high school, for which you have some kind of documentation.

**1. MAKE A LIST:**

**Life Experiences...** Here are some ideas:

- **Training...** like training or seminars at work that have official documentation, like schedules, certificates, and/or letters from supervisors.
- **Hobbies...** like coaching (spelling bee, little league, volleyball, dance, theatre, etc.), sports (church, school or community league), any kind of crafting (especially if you did this on a larger scale), cooking, baking (especially if you did something for a special event like weddings, banquets... even as an amateur)
- **Classes...** martial-arts, CPR, computer (EXCEL, PowerPoint, etc.), flying, swimming, cake decorating classes, photography, or sailing. Voice, piano or any other kind of lessons.

**2. GATHER PROOF:**

**Documentation...** once you have a list of things you've done in the past, now start gathering any kind of documentation for these experiences. Documentation can vary from one experience to the next. Here are some ideas...

- *pictures*
- *certificates, awards, performance evaluations*
- *letters of reference that state you spent approximately so many hours...*
- *newspaper articles, magazine clippings, blogs,*
- *work samples*
  - art work
  - articles written
  - brochures/ manuals designed
  - computer plans developed
  - licenses held
  - musical performances/arrangements
  - patents obtained
  - photographs
- *other awards (you can take a picture of a trophy or statue you might have acquired)*
- *schedule of attendance (not required but would be nice if it showed something like: Mon. - Fri. from 8am - 4pm... that gives me hours to work with)*
- *programs (verification of seminar/training/conference participation)*

**Documentation = proof of your experience**

You don't need all of the list above but maybe 2 or 3 items. You can obtain **1 credit for every 20 hours** that you can document working on that experience.

**3. THERE'S ALWAYS A WAY:**

No **hourly documentation???** That's o.k. We can work on an **EL Portfolio**. We even have a template to use... so NO starting from scratch!!

**4. SCHEDULE AN APPT:**

If you are close to the Winona Lake campus, feel free to schedule an appointment with me to discuss your ideas: