



FAQ

May 2023

What is the Transition Experience

- LCCC Strategic Plan Goal Three: *Establish an inescapable experience for all graduates that helps prepare them for and succeed in their transition after LCCC – either to a good job or advanced standing at a transfer institution.*
- An inescapable experience built into all 75-degree programs at LCCC (credit diplomas, certificates, and degrees)
- TREX 2395 Capstone Course (equivalent to 1 credit hour)
 - o An inescapable experience built into all 75-degree programs at LCCC
- Course Description:
 - o Students articulate skills learned throughout college in application of their portfolio to both job applications and general education practices. Students will create a post-graduation plan and apply financial planning and transfer or career-readiness tasks in a way that supports their personal goals.
- Course Competencies
 - o Student effectively communicates how skills learned at LCCC apply to career or transfer.
 - o Student creates a post-graduation plan
- Three Modules – equivalent of 1 credit hour
 - o Financial Planning
 - Online Series of 10, 7-minute Financial Planning Videos by Colin Ryan
 - The Formula to Reach Your Dream Job (*hint: it's learning to save money*)
 - Saving Money, Defeating Debt and Building Credit (*how to build wealth; building and managing your credit, debt repayment strategies; good debt vs. bad debt*)
 - Investing, Negotiating, and Networking (*investing 101, the difference between a mutual fund and an IRA, how to maximize employer benefits*)
 - Determining Wants vs. Needs (*healthy financial habits*)
 - Car-buying, Higher Education, and Giving Back
 - Funny step-by-step exercise to create and maintain a personal budget (*advantages of savings and investing early*)
 - Home Ownership (*understanding real-estate markets, buyers vs sellers markets*)

- Retirement Planning (*what the terms mean and WHY you should start now*)
- Portfolio
 - Complete Portfolio – two written references
 - All other artifacts should be collected for the Portfolio by the time a student reaches TREX. All faculty assist students in practicing reflection and submission of artifacts in each class.
 - Apply written and verbal communication in articulation of a portfolio artifact to a job position in a chosen career field
 - Identify and articulate at least one example of course work, internship/clinical, job, club, team, activities, or volunteering that demonstrates understanding of each of the LCCC General Education Practices (could also be called “soft skills” or “career competencies”):
 - Exploration, Research, Problem Solving
 - Creativity and Innovation
 - Empathy and Integrity
 - Communication and Collaboration
- Graduate Plan to Success (choose three)
 - Career - Resume, Cover Letter, Job Application
 - Career – Interviewing and Negotiation
 - Networking Seminar
 - Transfer Student Capital
 - Transfer Plan and Application
 - Career Growth – Professional Etiquette and Promotion
 - Career Growth – Entrepreneurship/Intrapreneurship
 - Career Growth – Self-Care and Work/Life Balance
- Flexibly implemented based on program and student needs with boundaries of competencies, assignments, and common grading rubrics that allow for campus-wide assessment of the Transition Experience

Why a Transition Experience

- LCCC student and industry defined need
- Good for students (see full Transition Experience research report)
 - Early focus on careers helps students see relevancy of degrees
 - 65% of traditional-age students never held a job
 - 49% of students use the community college as a gateway to a 4-year degree – but only 14% of those students complete transfer.
- Higher education accountability
 - “The wage premium on a college degree has risen dramatically over the past 40 years and colleges have traded on that over the years. To keep that status, they need to show employers why it matters that their institutions’ names are on resumes (Atkins, 2022).

Who is involved in TREX

- **Students**
 - Required of all graduating students.
- **Faculty**
 - Each degree program will determine how and who guides TREX. These are individual student plans, resources are provided, and faculty will not be holding

lecture-based classes for TREX, rather they will coach students through the modules.

- All faculty will support and assist students in practicing reflection and submission of artifacts from each course.

- **Institutional Research**

- Developing measuring tools to assess:
 - Implementation
 - Impact

- **TREX Teams:**

- Implementation
 - Some of the coordination team, General Education faculty, and faculty from the 10 programs (9 implementing in fall 2023) in the first pilot
 - Kari Brown-Herbst, Andy Brasile, J'O'Brien, Sheridan Hanson
 - Jeff Shmidl, Karen Bowen, Paul Koslosky, Amanda Brown, Lisa Taylor, Jaime Clarke, Jen DeRouchey, Renee Nelson, Chad Parsons, Caleb Perriton, Lindsey Freeman, Morgan Pennington, Ben Lehan, Ami Wangeline, Angela Kortemeir, Ann Howard, Ashleigh Ralls.
- Coordination
 - Representatives from areas engaged in TREX
 - During the design phase: Nick Colsch (Faculty Senate) and Kaycie Kilmurray (Staff/Student Services)
 - Currently: Kari Brown-Herbst (project sponsor), Andy Brasile (ASC), Stephanie Fielder (SGA), Dana McCammon (IR); Sheridan Hanson (CET); J O'Brien (project management)
- Academic Standards TREX Subcommittee
 - Review maps and identify TREX-approved programs
 - Develop process and checklist for TREX approval

When will TREX be implemented?

- Phased implementation:
 - Fall 2023
 - 9 programs
 - Psychology AS (split competencies between two courses (one new TREX))
 - Diesel CD (added a credit hour to capstone and adding capstone to degree)
 - Equine Management CD (added TREX course)
 - Ag Businesses AS (added TREX course)
 - Communication and Creative Arts AA (added TREX course)
 - Nursing ADN (mapped to existing classes in 3rd and 4th semester)
 - Radiography AAS (mapped to existing class)
 - HITM CD (mapped to existing classes)
 - Applied Business AAS (mapped to existing classes)
 - Fall 2024
 - Half of the remaining programs (36 additional programs)

- Exercise Science AS, Sports Management AS, Physical Education Teacher Education AS, Respiratory Therapy AAS, Practical Nursing certificate, Surgical Technology AAS, EMS-Paramedic certificate, EMS-Paramedic AAS, Diagnostic Medical Sonography AAS, Echocardiography certificate, Health Sciences and Wellness AS, Accounting Services AAS, Cybersecurity AAS, Data Analytics AAS, Datacenter Specialist CD, Industrial Systems Technology CD, Information Technology AAS, Network Infrastructure Specialist CD, Automotive Technology CD, Welding Technology –Advanced Pipe CD, Ag and Equine AAS, Ag Production Tech CD, Animal Science AS, Natural Resource Management AS, Meat Processing and Tech CD*, Meat Science and Technology AS*, Emerging Ag Technologies*, Education – Elementary and Early Childhood AA, Education – Secondary Education, STEM Program AS, Computer Science AS, Engineering Program AS, Science Programs – Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Physical Sciences AS
- Fall 2025
 - Full implementation (final programs)

Does TREX Transfer?

- Psychology has worked with UW to allow TREX to transfer as a psychology elective
- In most cases it will transfer as an elective
- Faculty will continue to work with UW to develop transfer agreements that include this course.

What kind of feedback have students given for TREX?

- Fall 2022 – Current student survey and alumni survey helped design the TREX course
- SGA Focus Group – November 2022
- Faculty are talking to current students and shaping the program specific materials based on those conversations.
- SGA Newsletter in February 2023 information and request for feedback

How were the assignments designed?

- The assignments were based off of examples of what other schools are doing (Valencia, Penn State, Slippery Rock University, James Madison, UNLV, Lake Area Technical College, etc.), research, and needs identified by LCCC students, alumni, and industry partners.
- Financial Planning Seminar was developed by Certified Financial Counselor, Colin Ryan who is used by programs and schools such as TRiO Upward Bound, the University of Vermont, Duke University, James Madison University, North Carolina State University, etc. - <https://www.colinryanspeaks.com/>
- The Phase I Implementation programs will fine tune these assignments and grading rubrics.

What will NOT happen in the TREX course?

- Creation of portfolio artifacts (those will happen in program and general education courses students take prior to TREX)
- TREX will NOT assess general education courses

Where can I find more information?

- Transition Experience Report – January 3, 2023
- LCCC TREX Master Canvas Course Shell
- Transition Experience SharePoint