

KICKSTART YOUR ENVIRONMENT CAREER

3/18/2024

Anu Aery

Career Advisor, Undergraduate Team
Centre for Career Development



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

Centre for Career
Development

WHOSE LAND ARE WE ON?

The University of Waterloo acknowledges that much of our work takes place on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples.

Our main campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

Our active work toward reconciliation takes place across our campuses through research, learning, teaching, and community building, and is centralized within the Office of Indigenous Relations.

Curious about the land that *you* are on? Visit <https://native-land.ca/>

[Office of Indigenous Relations](#)



A decorative graphic consisting of thick, rounded lines in red, teal, and yellow. The lines form a large 'L' shape on the left side, a vertical line on the right side, and a horizontal line at the bottom. The teal line is the most prominent, forming a diagonal shape on the right side.

Plan for Today:

- Introductions: CCD, EDGE, CEE
- Intended Learning Outcomes + What Makes an Environment Job?
- Mapping Skills
- Experiential Learning: Co-op, EDGE, Working Abroad
- Panel (30 minutes)
 - Students from Environment & Business, Planning, and Environment, Resources and Sustainability
 - Questions from Audience

About Us



Anu Aery | Career Advisor
Centre for Career Development (CCD)



Josée-Claire Malenfant | Instructional Support Coordinator, EDGE
Centre for Work-Integrated Learning (WIL)



Kathryn Fedy | Faculty Relations Manager
Co-operative and Experiential Education

Intended Learning Outcomes

- 1) Understand your options for experiential learning.
- 2) Learn how to talk about your skills from work and course experiences.
- 3) Learn from the career journeys of upper year students.





WHAT MAKES A JOB AN “ENVIRONMENT JOB”?



Building Skills for “Environment Jobs”



First Job = Time
to Build Skills



Multiple jobs will
help you build
the skills you
need for your
future



Many different
jobs are
connected to the
environment



You control how
to show your
experience is
relevant to an
“environment
job”

We can help
you with that!



Centre for Career Development (CCD) Services

Career Advising Appointments & Drop-ins:

- Resume Review
- Cover Letter Review
- Mock Interview
- Work Search
- Online Presence
- Further Education

Virtual or In-person Workshops:

- Résumé building
- Skills identification and articulation
- Networking
- Work search strategies
- Interview skills

Co-op Consults for students in first recruiting term:

Online: Monday-Friday
9:30 am – 2:30 pm ET

In-person: Tuesdays
10:30 am – 12:30 pm ET

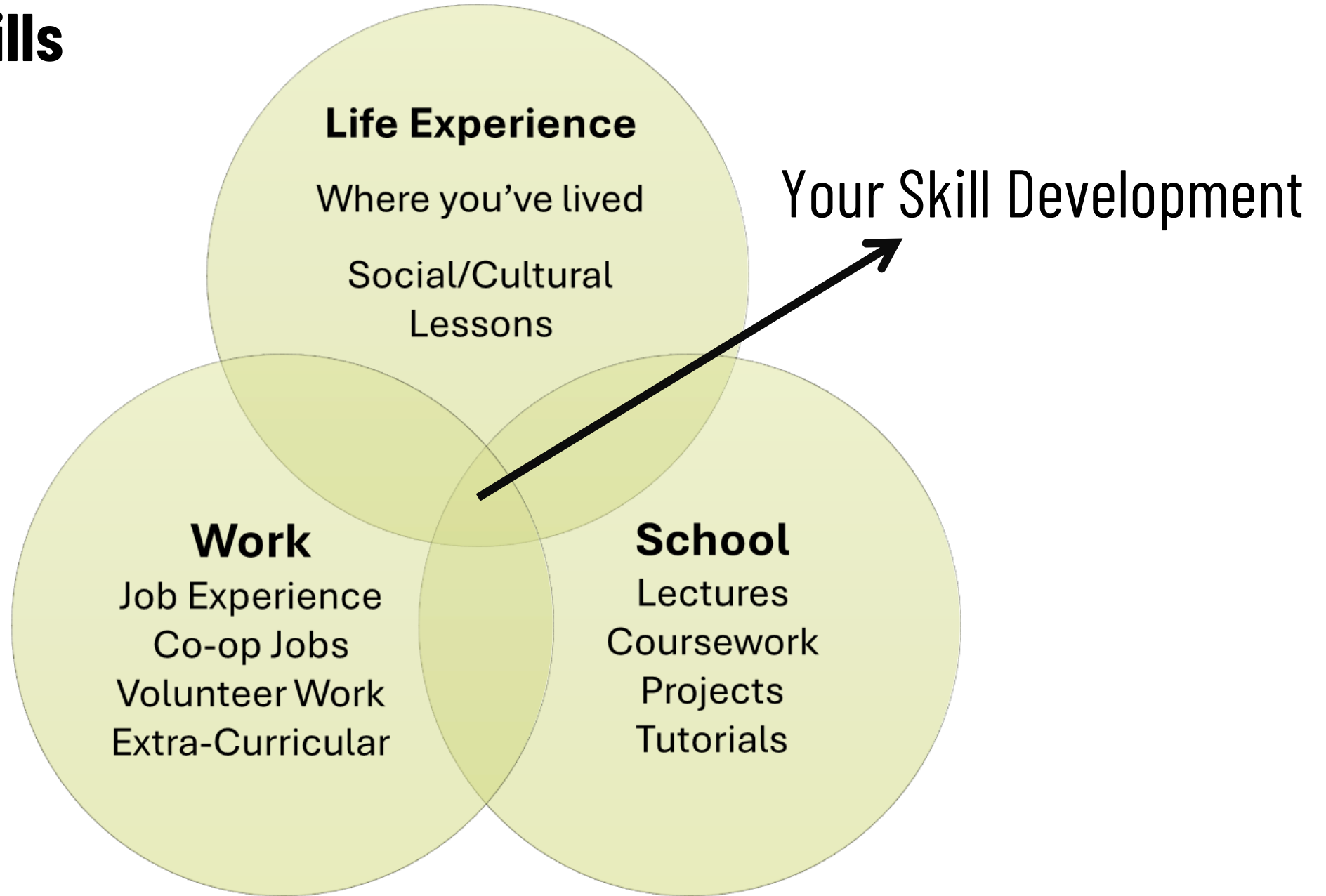
Wednesdays & Thursdays
12:30 – 2:30 pm ET



Book online to attend: www.waterlooworks.uwaterloo.ca



Mapping Skills



What are my skills?

School

- **Research**
Example:
Researched conservation strategies for course project by...
- **Collaboration**
Example:
Collaborated with team to organize a panel about...

Work

- **Interpersonal**
Example:
Listened actively to provide support to customers regularly...
- **Attention to detail**
Example:
Organized office files with strong attention to detail...

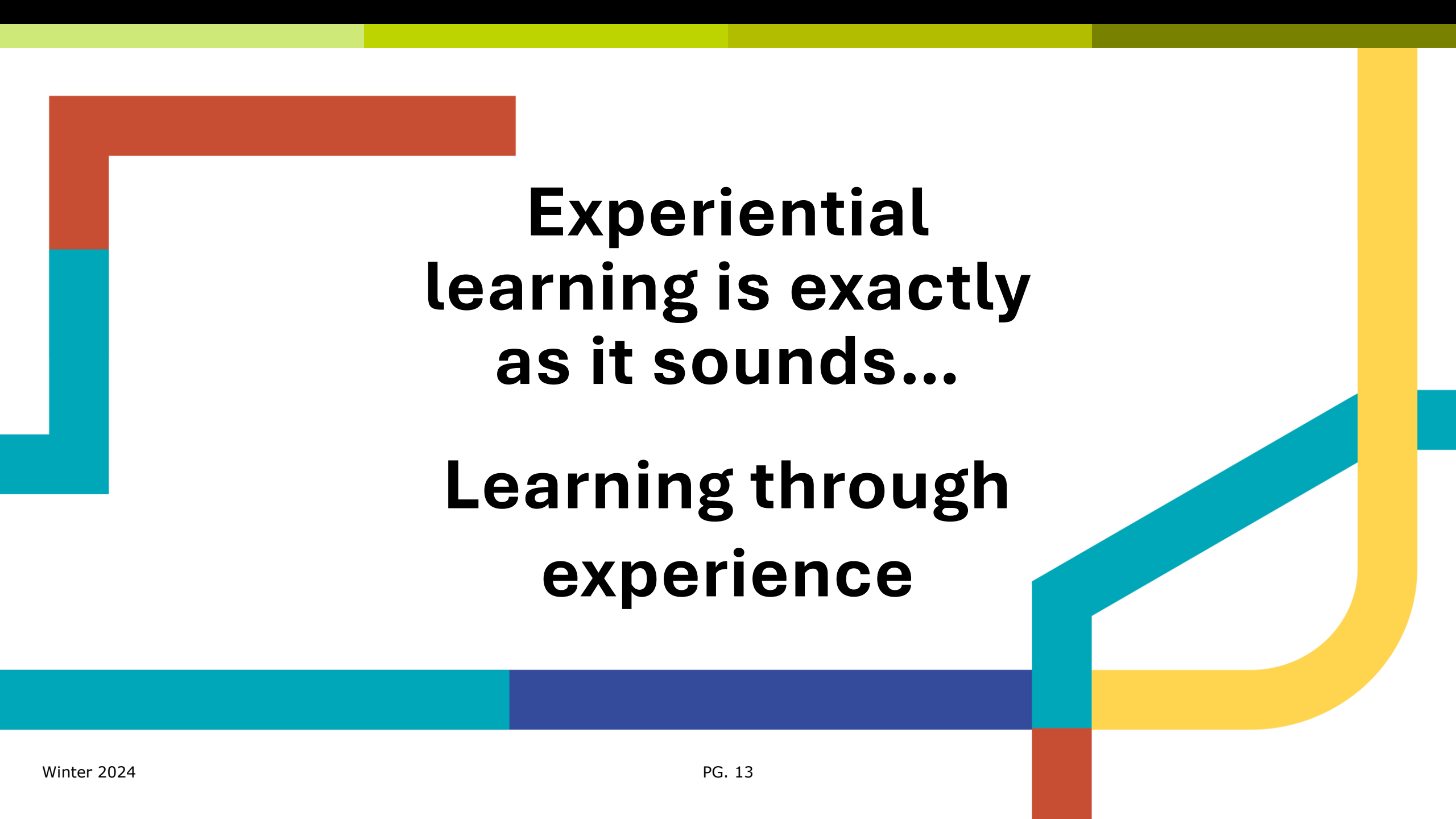
Life

- Adaptability
- Work Ethic
- Patience
- Additional languages
- Cultural awareness
- Can add these types of skills/attributes to a Summary of Qualifications



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

What does this mean?



**Experiential
learning is exactly
as it sounds...**

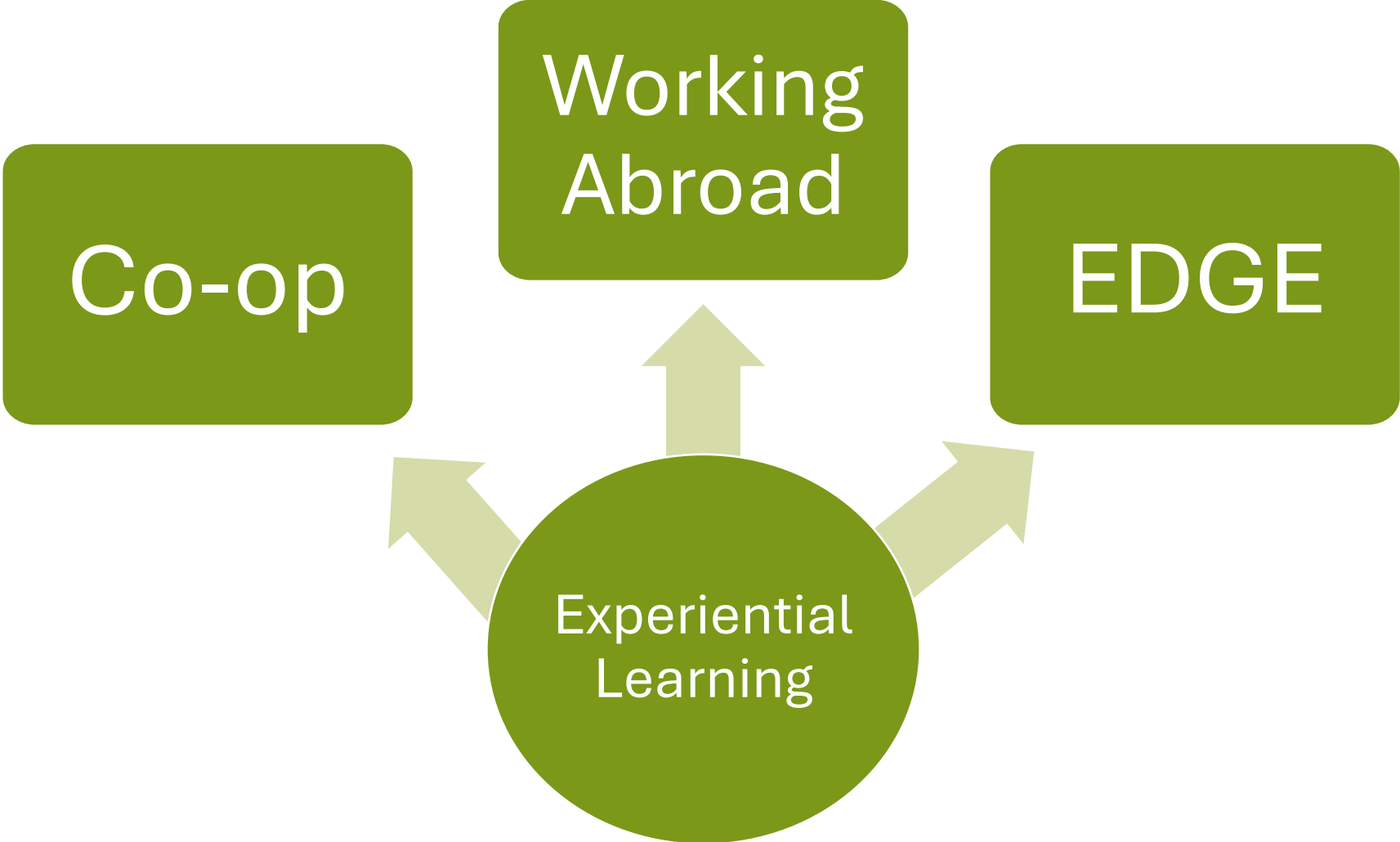
**Learning through
experience**

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

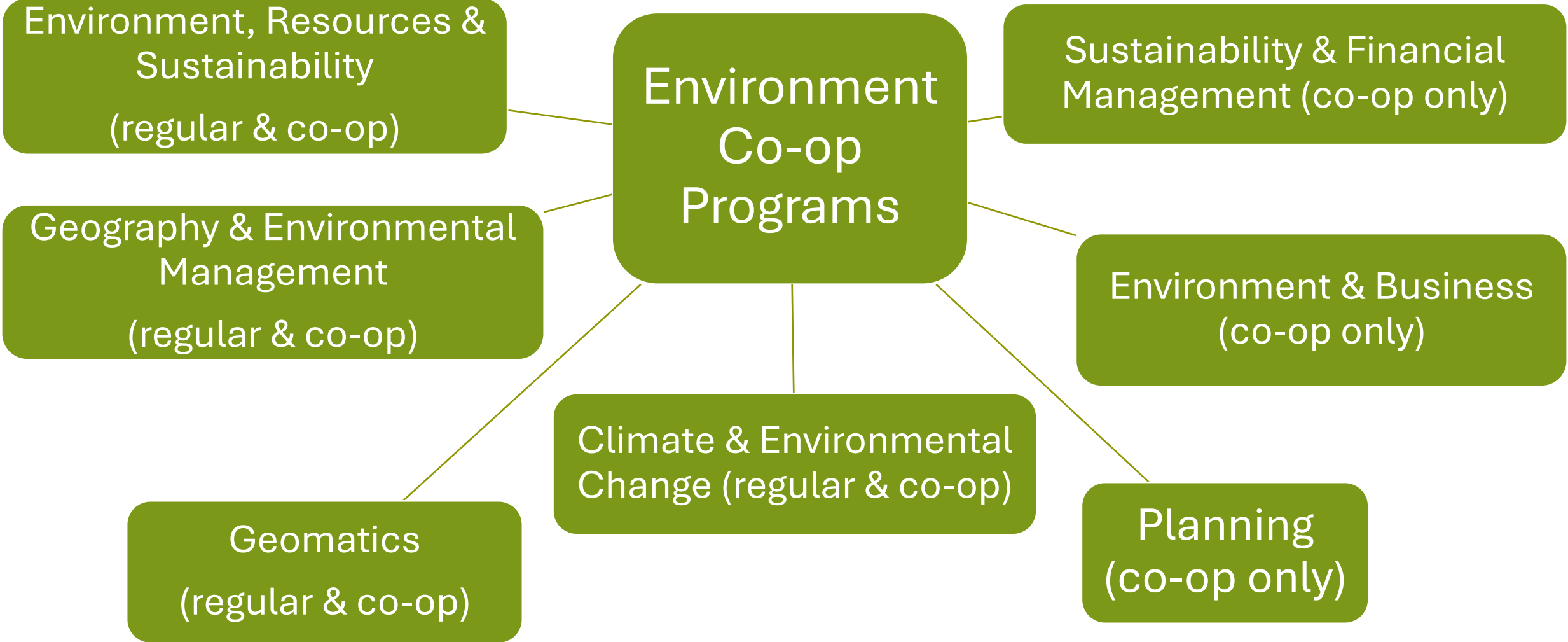
- Helps you build the skills you will need for your future.
 - Building relationships that will help expand your professional network.
 - Establishing a good support system and finding mentors.
-



Experiential Learning Options



Experiential Learning through Co-op



Faculty of Environment Typical Co-op Jobs

Environment & Business	Environment & Resource Studies	Geography & Environmental Management	Geomatics	Climate & Environmental Change	Planning
Research Associate	Food Loss & Waste Data Collection	Agroclimate Analyst	Education Consultant	Environmental Scientist	Planning Assistant
Junior Policy Analyst	Species at Risk Research Student Assistant	GIS Technician	QA Associate	Ecologist	Safety Research Advisor
Operations and Logistics Analyst	Landfill Operations	Habitat Data Officer	Map Design Support	Junior Climate Analyst	Rail Operations Co-op Student

You can research more [here](#).



Faculty of Environment Typical Co-op Jobs

Sustainability & Financial Management

Risk Assurance ESG

Staff Accountant

Cross-border Tax Analyst

Note: The Sustainability & Financial Management program is offered jointly by the Faculty of Environment, School of Accounting and Finance, and the Faculty of Arts.

This program integrates social and environmental responsibility with financial management to meet growing labour market demands.

You can find out more information [here](#)

Co-op - First Work Term Options

We Accelerate

- Students develop in-demand skills through content provided by industry collaborators and team-based project experiences.

Co-op Job postings on Waterloo Works

- Check out the Hire Waterloo Co-op Job Board. The jobs here have already been approved for credit based on the standard co-op requirements.

Arranging your Own Job (AOJ) Process

- When looking for positions externally, review the **standard vs flexible** work term requirements for positions to be eligible for co-op credit.

COMMON JOB BOARDS

- [ECO Canada](#)
- [Campus Connect](#)
- [Indeed Canada](#)
- [LinkedIn Jobs](#)
- [FindYourJob.ca](#)
- [Simply Hired](#)
- [Job Bank](#)
- [Career Builder](#)
- [Eluta](#)
- [Talent Egg](#)
- [Glassdoor](#)
- [ZipRecruiter](#)



WHAT IS EDGE?

Waterloo's experiential education certificate program

Regular-stream undergraduate degree students

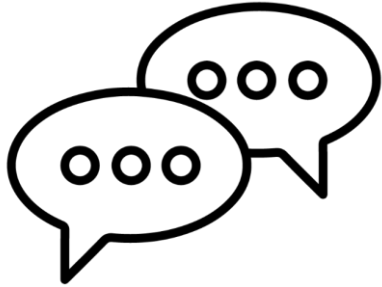
6 free and flexible milestones

Opt-in during any term

Our philosophy



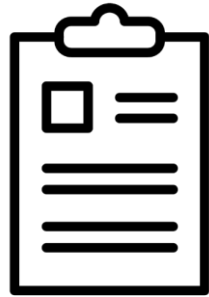
WHAT ARE THE MILESTONES?



Skills Identification & Articulation Workshop

Online or synchronous workshop

Identify skills developed inside and outside the classroom and **articulate** skills to potential employers



Career Development Course

Complete and pass PD1 EDGE

Develop core career seeking skills and align career goals with values, skills and interests



Work or Community Experiences

3 paid or volunteer work experiences

Explore career options through an **experiential learning courses** or their own **paid or volunteer experiences** paired with an elective PD course



Capstone Workshop

Synchronous online workshop

Create **action plan for post-graduation success** and develop strategies for next steps after undergraduate degree

Past Environment EDGE experiences!

- Summer Eco Camp Assistant, RARE Charitable Research Reserve
- Volunteer Services Coordinator, Shelter Movers Waterloo Region
- Marketing & Communications Volunteer, Show You Care
- Residence Life Don, Campus Housing
- Research Assistant, Co-laboratory Collaborative Mindset
- User Experience Designer, TD Bank

There are also courses that count towards work/community experience milestones!

Register for EDGE



Book an appointment



HOW CAN I GO INTERNATIONAL WITH EDGE?

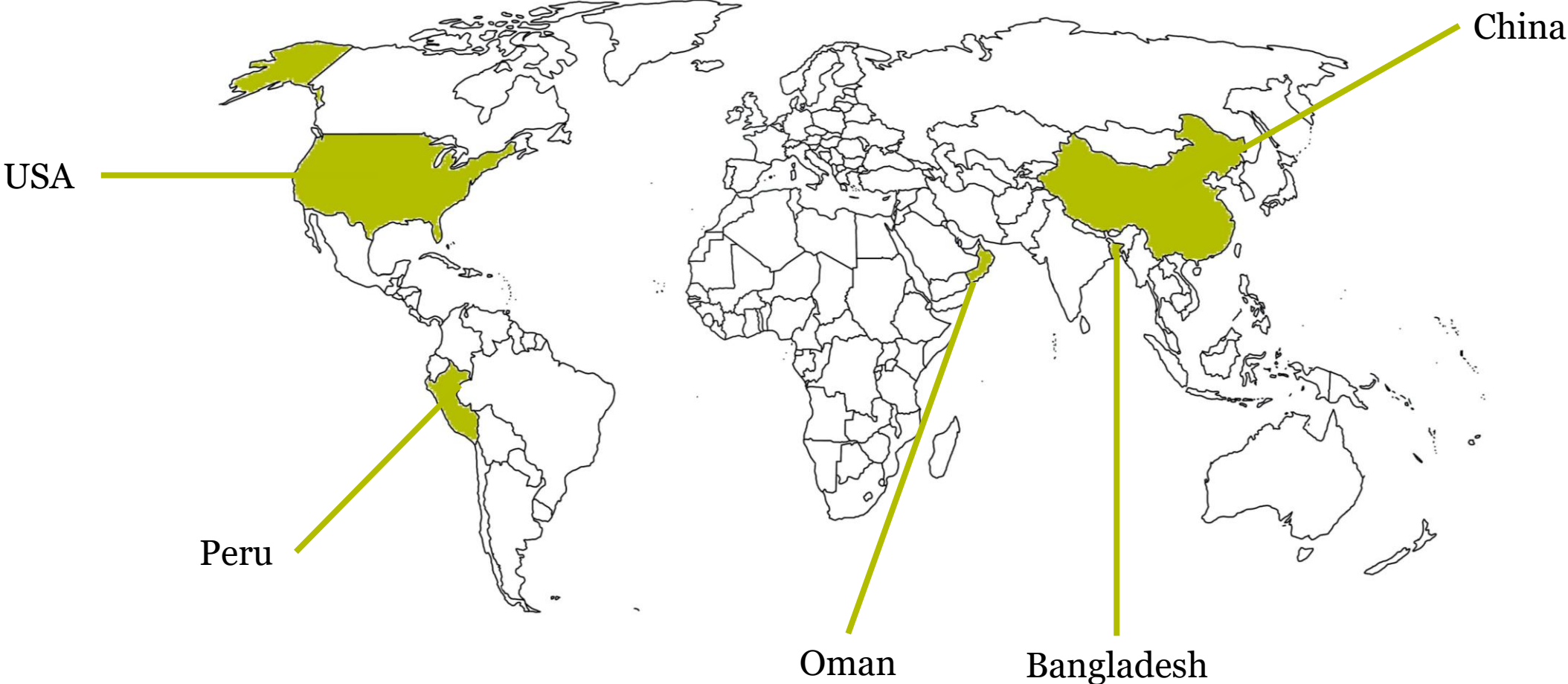
Part of a course

- Complete our independent studies and special topics enrolment form ASAP
- Approval process for milestone
- At least 18 hours of work
- Third party
- Pass course
- Performance evaluation
- Reflection for EDGE

Extracurricular experience

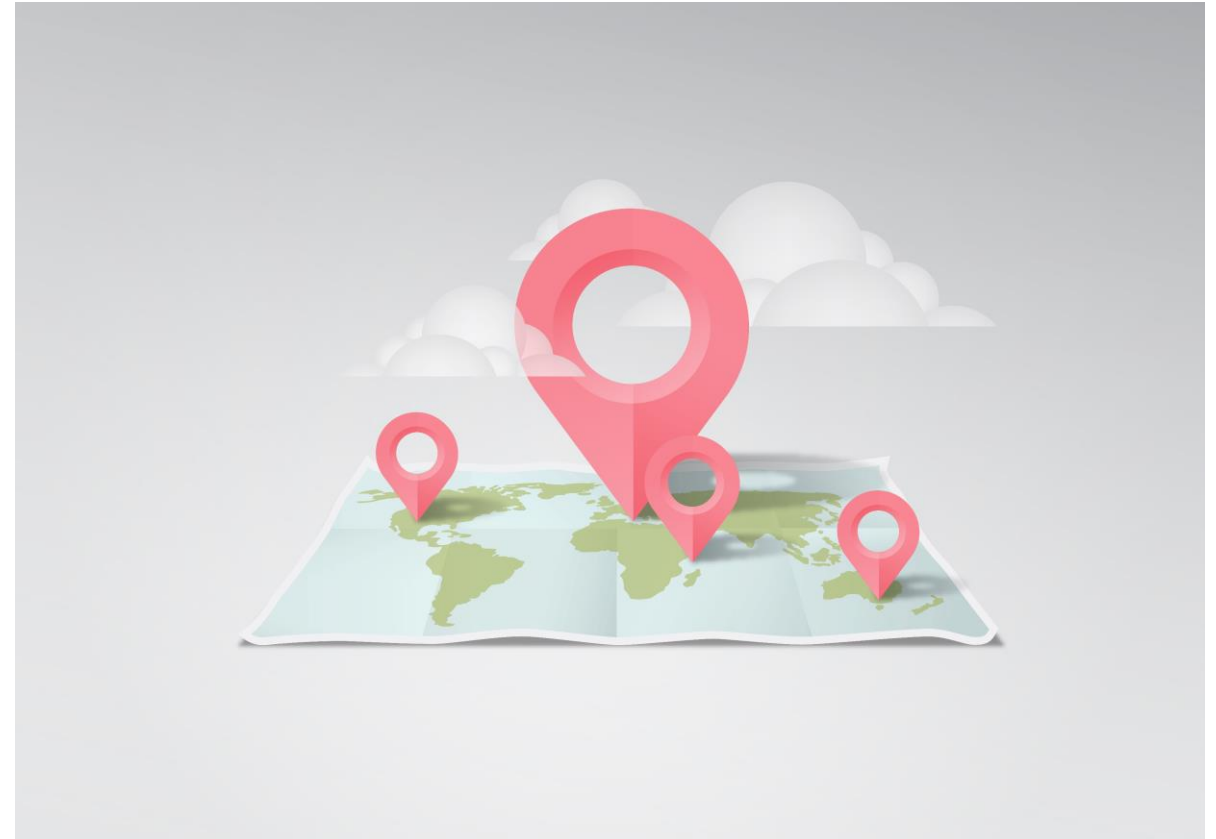
- Complete our international experience information form ASAP before departing
- Approval process, pre-departure training
- Your physical body is outside of Canada
- At least 36 hours of work
- Paired with PD elective course
- Performance evaluation

WHERE HAVE EDGE STUDENTS BEEN?



Co-op - Working Abroad

- Over 3000 work terms abroad in 60+ countries
- Great way to build key professional skills and global work experience
- To engage in an international co-op term, you need to check your eligibility requirements
 - This takes time and dedicated planning
 - “You should complete at least one year of academic studies before applying for an international work term outside your home country” - Work Abroad Co-op



PANEL WITH UPPER YEAR ENVIRONMENT STUDENTS



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Student Panelists

Avery Sudsbury

4B | Environment and Business, Honours Co-op

Mary Samson

3B | Environment, Resources & Sustainability Co-op and Biology,
Joint Honours Degree

Joshua Beech Falshaw

4B | Planning, Honours Co-op



Questions

- 1) Could you introduce yourself? And share one highlight from your environment career journey? (positive memory, experience, learning)
- 2) What are some skills you learned in your first year that helped you in your co-op/work-integrated learning journey?
- 3) Mary: How did your studies in Environment, Resources and Sustainability prepare you for your work experiences?
- 4) Avery: From what you learned within the Environment and Business program, how was the experience of applying that knowledge within a work setting? (integrating environment and business knowledge)
- 5) Joshua: What differences did you notice based on what you learned about Planning in school versus what you learned through your Planning-related work experience?

Questions

- 1) What challenges did you face in your co-op/career journey and how did you overcome those challenges? What supports did you use?
- 2) What other experiential learning options did you choose in university? (volunteering, student clubs, EDGE, part-time work)
- 3) Can you share how you got your first job while in university?
- 4) What advice do you have for first year students beginning to build their environment careers?


QUESTIONS FOR THE PANELISTS?



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SUPPORTS & RESOURCES

SUPPORTS AND RESOURCES

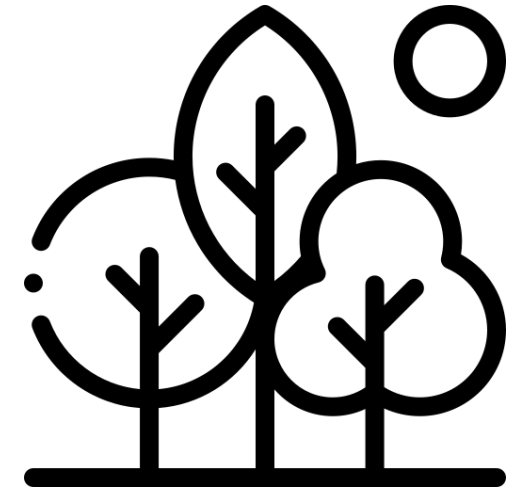
- ✓ Co-op Consults
- ✓ Appointments and drop-ins
- ✓ Immigration consulting (SSO)
- ✓ Academic Advisor
- ✓ Workshops and events
- ✓ WaterlooWorks Help



Contact ceehub@uwaterloo.ca for any technical issues

CO-OP REQUIREMENTS

- Co-op requirements are laid out in the **undergraduate calendar**, like your academic requirements.
- In order to be eligible to receive a co-op designation, Faculty of Environment students are required to complete:
 - A minimum of **four** work term credits. **Three** of these work terms are required to be **standard**.
 - A minimum of **four** professional development (PD) courses.
 - [PD 1](#) must be taken prior to the first work term.
 - [PD 12](#) is taken during the first work term.



Source: Undergraduate Studies Calendar | University of Waterloo (uwaterloo.ca)



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MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS



We know the time and energy it takes to manage your academics and work search side-by-side.

We want you to have a balanced life and good mental health!

If you need someone to talk to, please connect with a mental health support!

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS



Campus Supports

- **UW Mates** – Peer support service for undergrad students
- **Counselling Services** – On campus counselling
- **Wellness Programs and Student Groups** – Supportive group programs and events



Community Supports (available after-hours)

- **Empower Me** - Confidential phone support service for all students available 24/7, 365 days a year
- **Here 24/7** – Waterloo Community Support Service
- **Good 2 Talk** – Confidential text/phone support service for post-secondary students in Ontario and Nova Scotia

CONTACT US

- UPLOAD A DOCUMENT
- CREATE APPLICATION PACKAGE
- SEARCH POSTINGS
- REGISTER FOR AN EVENT
- SEND A MESSAGE
- SUBMIT A FORM
- UPDATE SKILLS PROFILE

- DASHBOARD
- Hire Waterloo Co-op
 - Hire Waterloo
 - External Job Boards
 - Employer Information Sessions
 - Career Centre Events
 - Additional Networking & Professional Events
 - Appointments
 - Help
 - Logout

Welcome

- Dashboard
- Co-op
- Documents
- Postings / Applications
- Interviews
- Rankings
- Appointments
- Events
- Skills Profile

- Home
- My Account
- My Messages 10
- My Forms

Welcome to your WaterlooWorks Dashboard, where you'll find job boards containing opportunities for co-op students, EDGE students, regular students, graduating students and alumni!

To search for jobs, select Hire Waterloo Co-op, Hire Waterloo and External Job Boards from the main menu.

- Co-op students:** Review our Getting started webpage for an overview of how to search for co-op jobs. You must be on a recruiting term, accept the terms and conditions and state your intentions to access co-op postings.

For help with your job search and overall career direction:

- Attend Centre for Career Action appointments, workshops and events by selecting "Career Centre Events" or "Appointments" on the main menu.
- Attend "Employer Information Sessions" and "Additional Networking and Professional Events" by selecting these options on the main menu. Check often as events are added continuously and registrations may reach capacity.
- Access exclusive career planning content and resources through CareerHub.

Questions?

- Co-op students:** Your co-op advisor is here to support you! Select "Send a message" from the main menu to connect with your advisor.
- EDGE students:** The EDGE Team is here to support you! Visit the EDGE website for more information or contact the EDGE Team for assistance.
- All students:** Contact the Centre for Career Action for help with your work search or overall career direction.
- Mental health support:** Contact Campus Wellness for mental health resources.

Remember: All University of Waterloo students are expected to follow the University's academic integrity policies.

New Messages

Today's Webcam Appointments and/or Interviews

0 Webcam Appointments [View](#)

SERVICE TEAM

WTS	Career Advisors CCA (519-888-4567 x44047)
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Co-op Sequence - Summary

Term: 2022 - Spring

Student is on a 'Study' Term

Term: 2022 - Fall

Terms and Conditions Accepted Yes (Click Here to View)

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THANK YOU ALL FOR JOINING US!

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Our greatest impact happens together.