# EDGE 101

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Presented by:

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# Agenda

- What is EDGE?

- EDGE Program Overview

- EDGE Milestones

- EDGE Course Eligibility

- EDGE Course Examples

- How can you support EDGE?

- Questions

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# What is EDGE?

Academic Certificate Program – *Experiential Education Certificate*

- Strong focus on employability skills and career readiness

- Undergraduate students in regular stream (non-co-op)

- Opt-in

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# EDGE Milestones



1 SKILLS IDENTIFICATION AND ARTICULATION
workshop

1 CAREER DEVELOPMENT
course

3 Work or community EXPERIENCES

1 CAPSTONE
workshop

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# Skills Identification & Articulation Workshop

- Facilitated by a career advisor from the Centre for Career Action

- Designed to help students identify the skills that they are developing in and out of the classroom and ultimately express those skills to target audiences
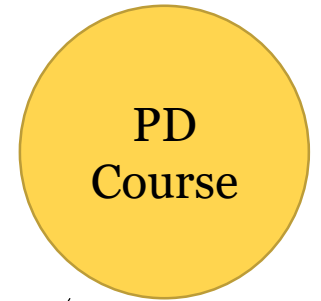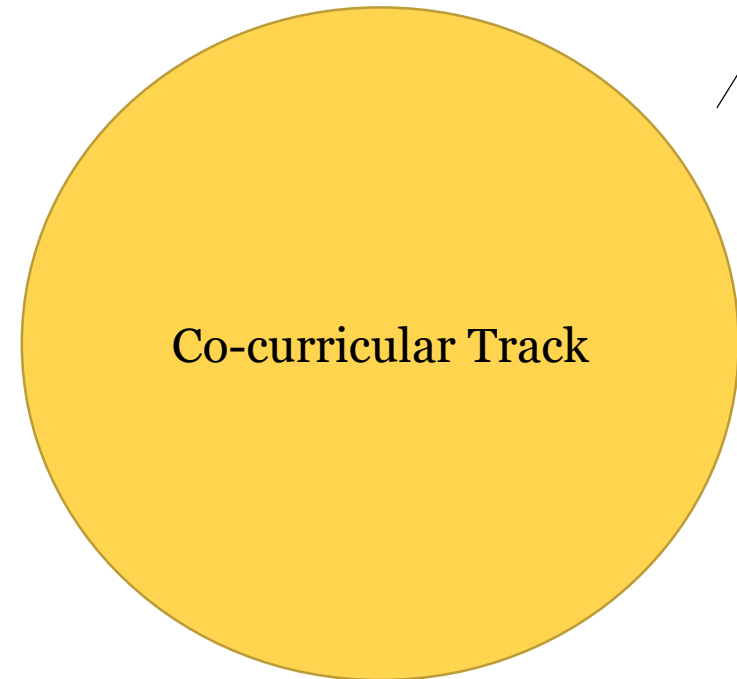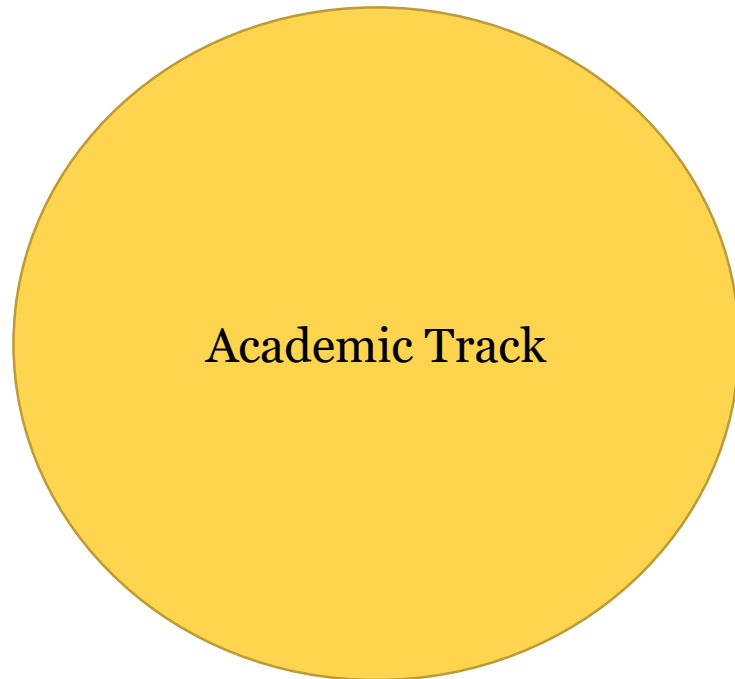
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# Career Development Course

In this course students will develop core career-seeking skills by:

- Résumé writing

- Working on interview skills

- Writing a cover letter

- Aligning their values, interests and skills

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# Three Work or Community Experiences

- Two key ways to complete these experiences:

PD Course

Academic Track

Co-curricular Track

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# Co-curricular Track

**36 Hours**

Work/Community experiences can occur on or off campus and can be paid or unpaid

**Academic Performance**

Student must complete a professional development elective through WatPD

**Evaluation**

Third party must evaluate student on their workplace skills

**Reflection**

Student submits reflective assignment to the EDGE office for grading

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# Academic Track

**18 Hours**

Work/Community experience courses involve at least **18 hours** of work with a third party in a term

**Academic Performance**

Student must pass the class to get EDGE credit

**Evaluation**

Third party must evaluate student on their workplace skills

**Reflection**

Student submits reflective assignment to the EDGE office for grading

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# EDGE Course Eligibility

- Course must be weighted for academic achievement (0.25 credits or higher)

- Course must be open to regular (non-coop students)

- Course must engage a third party (community or industry partner)

- Third party must be connected enough to students that they are able to comment on an evaluation of their workplace performance (18 hours)

- Third party must complete evaluation for students

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# EDGE Approved Courses

| Course Code | Component Description |
|---|---|
| PSYCH 465 | Apprenticeship – student immersed in workplace for 60 hours over the course of the term |
| ENBUS 402 | Students matched with organizations in teams. Students work on project that integrates and applies the concept of business and sustainability |
| HLTH 481 | Student placed in service learning related placement for 8-10 hours per week with a community agency |

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# One Off Course Approvals

- Process internally by which courses with student-driven or fluctuating components can be approved on a one-off basis

  - Examples: Special Topics Courses; Consulting projects

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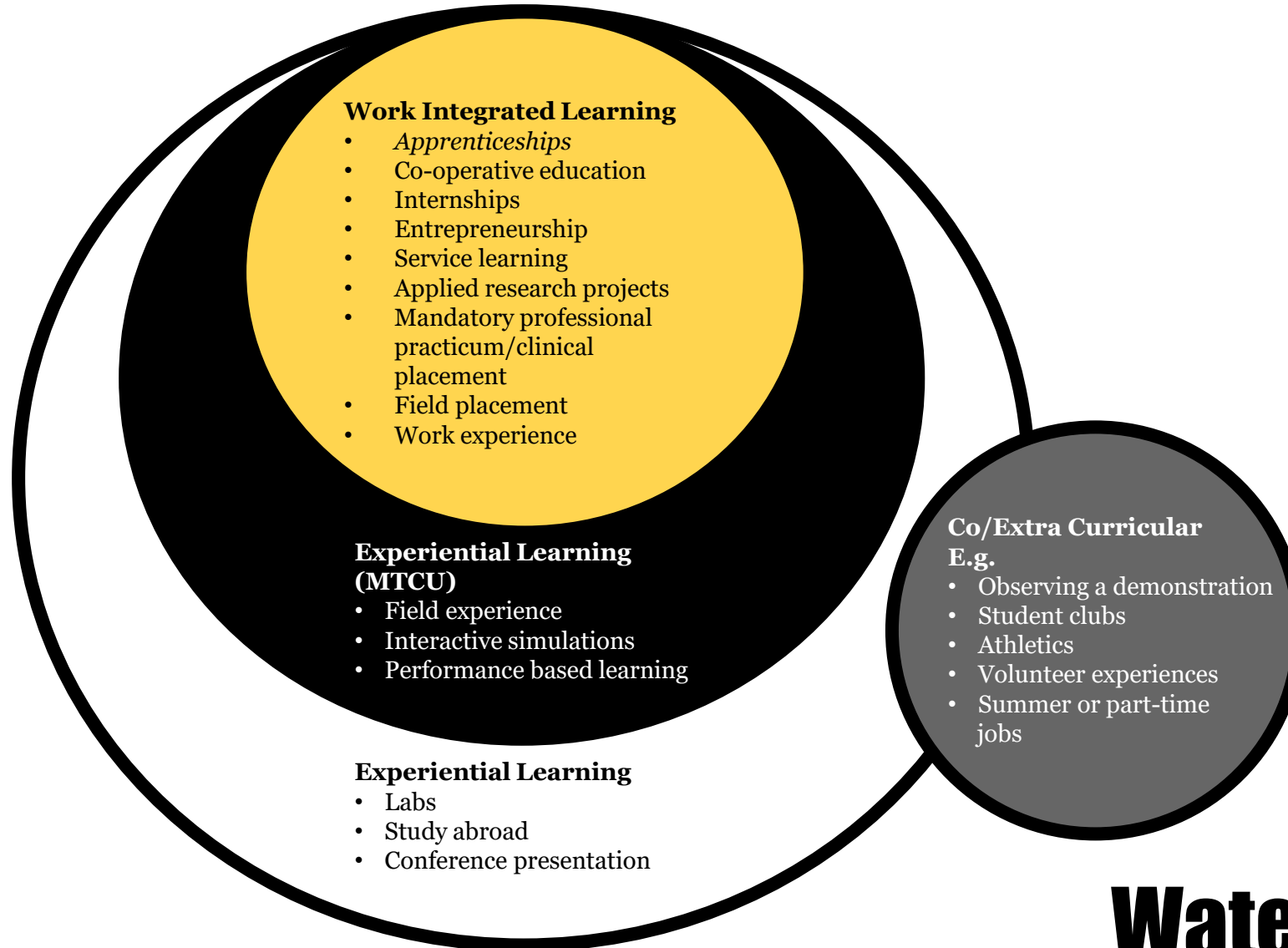
# DEFINITION OF WIL

## Work-Integrated Learning (WIL)

- "Work-integrated learning is a model and process of curricular experiential education which formally and intentionally integrates a student's academic studies within a workplace or practice setting. WIL experiences include an engaged partnership of at least: an academic institution, a host organization and a student. WIL can occur at the course or program level and includes the development of learning outcomes related to employability, personal agency and life-long learning"
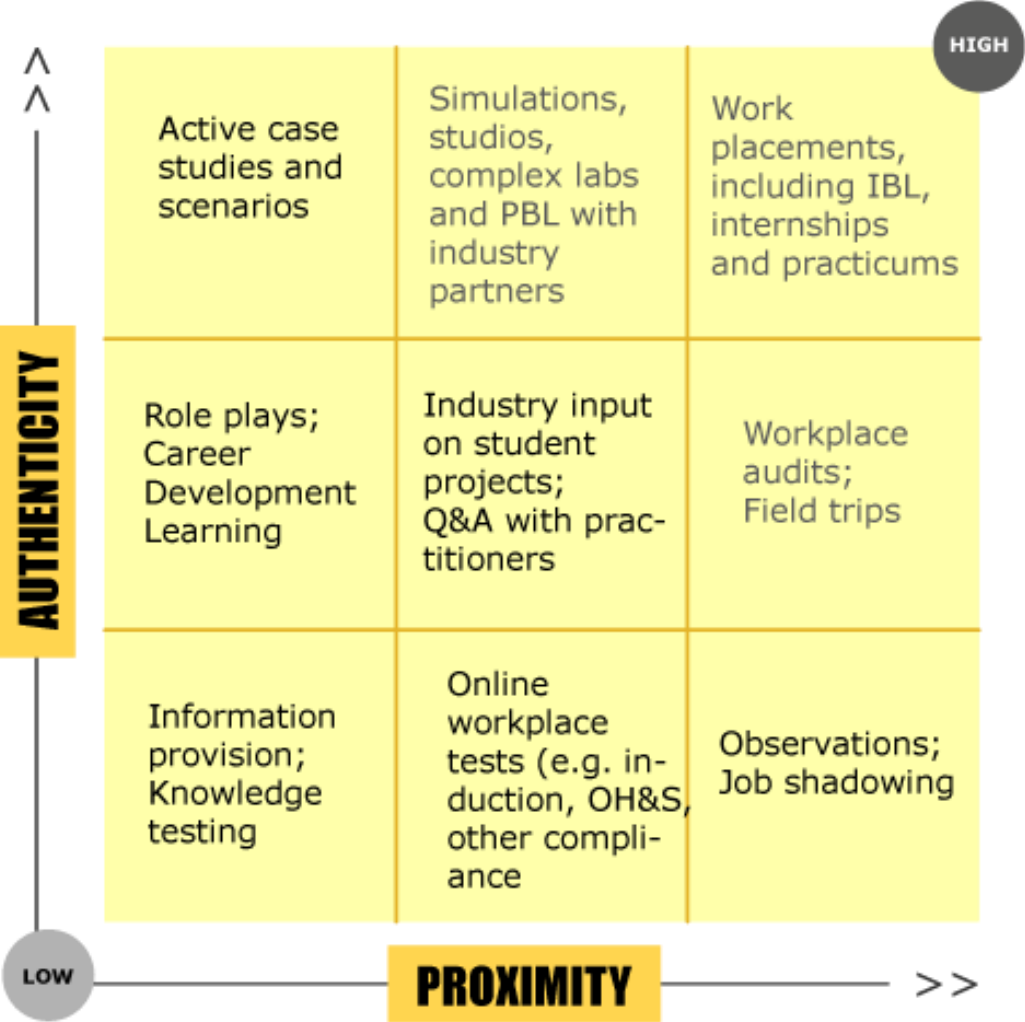
<div style="text-align:right">-Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning Canada</div>

- CEWIL endorses nine forms of work-integrated learning

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# Experiential Learning



**Work Integrated Learning**
- *Apprenticeships*
- Co-operative education
- Internships
- Entrepreneurship
- Service learning
- Applied research projects
- Mandatory professional practicum/clinical placement
- Field placement
- Work experience

**Experiential Learning (MTCU)**
- Field experience
- Interactive simulations
- Performance based learning

**Experiential Learning**
- Labs
- Study abroad
- Conference presentation

**Co/Extra Curricular E.g.**
- Observing a demonstration
- Student clubs
- Athletics
- Volunteer experiences
- Summer or part-time jobs

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# Proximity and Authenticity

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"Be the world-leading university in co-op education and other forms of experiential and work-integrated learning."
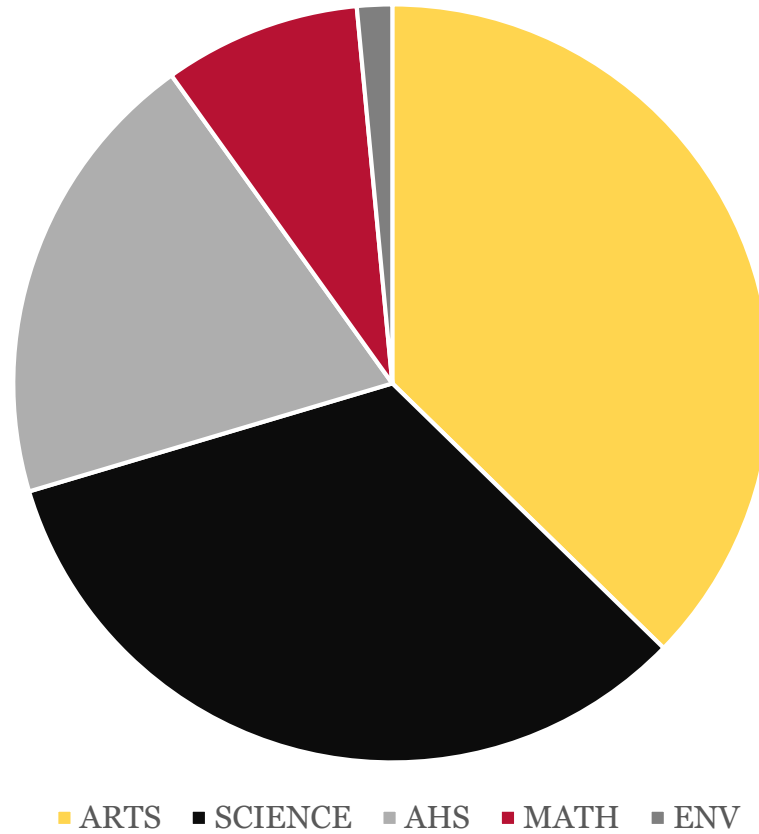
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**STRATEGIC PLAN, 2013**

# How Can You Support EDGE?

- Educate students about EDGE

- Consider embedding a Skills Workshop in your course

- Request an assessment of your course that includes an experiential learning component

- Consider tweaking an existing experiential learning course to align with the EDGE eligibility criteria

- Consider developing an experiential learning course

- Be open to completing evaluations for students who are employed by you (e.g. TAs)

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# Who is participating in EDGE?

% of Enrolment



■ ARTS  ■ SCIENCE  ■ AHS  ■ MATH  ■ ENV

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# Questions?

*Thank-you!*

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Send EDGE inquiries to **edge@uwaterloo.ca**