

# EE AND WIL AND CO-OP, OH MY!

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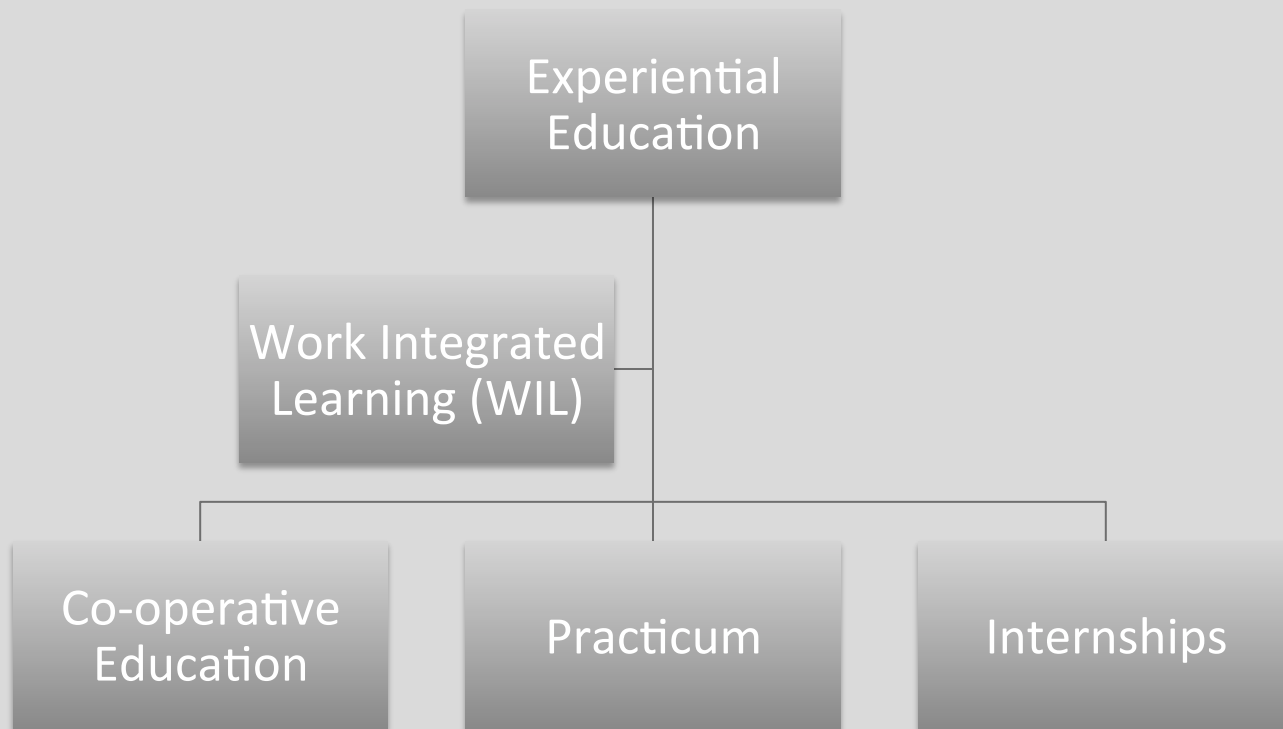


# OUTLINE

- Taxonomy of Experiential Education
- Brief Introduction to WatCACE
- Co-op/WIL at Waterloo and beyond Waterloo
- Co-op/WIL research
- Opportunities for Waterloo
  - » Co-op/WIL practices
  - » Co-op/WIL research
- Challenges for Waterloo



# HOW EE/WIL/CO-OP ARE RELATED



# WHAT IS WATCACE?

- Dr. James Downey founding Director in 2002
- Objectives:
  - conduct/facilitate research, thought leadership, communicate findings
- People:
  - Part-time director, part-time research/admin coordinator
  - 13 volunteer associates who conduct research and/or advise Director
- Research seminars, grants and presentations
- Leadership positions in research groups of national and international co-op/WIL organizations



# CO-OP/WIL AT WATERLOO

19

% of Waterloo graduating students who didn't participate in a program with WIL, would choose to now, if starting over

40

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% of Waterloo faculty, that do not teach a course or in a program that offers WIL

51

% of employers involved with non co-op forms of WIL who would like more support to supervise and assess students

77

% of Waterloo faculty who teach a course with WIL report that a major challenge of WIL is ensuring quality placements

Source: DeClou, L., Sattler, P., and Peters, J. (2013). *The University of Waterloo and Work-Integrated Learning: Three Perspectives*. Toronto: Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario.



# CO-OP/WIL BEYOND WATERLOO

- Very fortunate to have a strong definition of Co-op in Canada
- Many forms and implementations of Work-Integrated Learning across the globe
  - Internships (paid/unpaid)
  - Sandwich programs (UK)
  - Service Learning
  - Practicums
  - Apprenticeships



# CURRENT RESEARCH AT WATERLOO

- Health, Well-being and Sense of Belonging (2013 MTCU grant)
- Cultural Intelligence in Study Abroad vs. Work Abroad Programs (a 2012 WatCACE research grant)
- Examining psychological outcome differences between co-op and non co-op
- WatPD Evaluation grant from HEQCO to be published this month
- Evaluation of the CECA First Work Term Success pilots
- Paid/unpaid internships (2014 conference presentation)



# RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR WATERLOO

- Funding
- For students, employers, institutions, community/society who participate in various forms of WIL
  - » Examining outcomes
  - » Examining costs
- International student support in co-op/WIL
- Examining co-op attrition





# CHALLENGES FOR WATERLOO

- Faculty engagement
- Strengthening not risking co-op brand
- Increasing competition from other co-op/WIL programs at universities and colleges
- Supporting the increasing number of international students participating in co-op
- Prioritizing both theoretical and practical research on Co-op/WIL



# Questions?

