



ExploreHope 2020-2021 Hope College Student Experiential Learning



Discern

Career Development and Vocational Understanding

Training and real-world experiences that fit not only educational professions, but many professional paths through teamwork, collaboration, project planning, and communication skills.

Prepare

Experiential Learning and Faculty/Staff Relations

Under the guidance of science, engineering and education professionals, students are provided the opportunity to grow, challenge themselves, fail safely, and raise each other up.

Pursue

Outbound Connections

Student staff work daily with K-12 students,

parents, outside experts and program directors. They are constantly honing their communication and teamwork skills which increase their commitment to their chosen profession and cause them to stand out to employers.

<u>Academic Year: Outreach Interns (2)</u> *Air Quality Monitoring Schools Project*

"I learned to advocate for myself when I had limits and communicated those with my advisor. This is something I had difficulties in the past doing. Practicing this was helpful."

"This experience helped me learn project management skills and communication skills which will be useful in any job as we must manage tasks and communicate with colleagues in any field of work."

"I gained a closer relationship with Professor ... where if I have any professional related questions I can seek advice from her."

Short term: Outreach Activity volunteers (65)

Brain Awareness Week Volunteers in schools and Saturday program Step Up Enrichment Sessions Saturday Community Outreach program volunteers Classroom Campus visit volunteers

"I love to volunteer for the outreach programs because it ... reminds me of the love of creation and problem solving that made me decide to study engineering in the first place!"

"I volunteer for outreach programs for 2 main reasons—to invest in the kids/students and to help break the stigma surrounding a person being interested in STEM. My hope is that by giving my time and energy to these programs, I will be able to help kids really embrace their interest in STEM because it makes them unique and hopefully make the road ahead of them easier/filled with fewer doubts."

"I volunteer for outreach programs so that young girls just starting to be interested in science can see themselves in me and start to picture themselves as scientists, engineers, mathematicians. My interest in science would have been sparked a lot earlier if I had seen someone who looked like me in a science role, so I want to be that person for younger girls now."

Long term Summer Camps Staff (18)

Eight-week full time summer camp staff

"Science camps have over prepared me for a career in teaching. Beyond simply the teaching experience, camps have provided me the opportunity for classroom management experience, curriculum development, thinking on my feet and prepping for the unexpected, and team teaching (to name a few). Camps immerse me in an exhausting, wonderful experience that is unmatched in all other experiences I have had. Every day at camp surprises me and intrigues me and I couldn't be more thrilled to be a future teacher."

"I think that working with a diverse staff was highly beneficial for everyone. I got to work with several people who I had never met before from a wide variety of majors."

"I didn't feel like communication was one of my strong points at the beginning of the summer, but this job really stretched me and helped me to become a better communicator. This experience also taught me a lot about teamwork and collaboration and I feel that I am much better prepared to work with others as a result of it. ... it was so rewarding to watch the camps come together as a result."

"The science camp program itself is designed to empower college students like me to step out of our comfort zones and exceed our personal expectations."