

## FUN FACT:

# 87%

Employer survey data shows there is strong agreement among employers that ALL students, regardless of their field of study, should gain broad learning in democratic institutions and values (AAC&U).

## Things to know about the Local Engagement requirement:

- The Local Engagement requirement falls under the Self and the World category of the new general education curriculum.
  - o Local engagement (LE) provides opportunities for students to impact the quality of life in a community positively and to better understand and apply academic knowledge and proficiencies to active and ethical participation in civic life.
- The Local Engagement requirement of the General Education curriculum has the following three parts
  - o 1. Completion of the preparatory module during the spring semester First-Year Foundations course
  - o 2. Completion of the “semester-long” local engagement experience (this is not limited to just the parts working with community partners but also includes the related training and/or coursework)
  - o 3. Submission of the two-part portfolio contribution (documentation and a critical reflection project)
- Please do not ever refer to it as a “service requirement.” The goal of including this requirement in the general education curriculum is ensure that all students have a high impact experiential learning opportunity that allows them to apply what they are learning in classes through **mutually beneficial partnerships with** an organization. Students will demonstrate their ability to meet the following learning outcomes:
  - o Work collaboratively in local cultural settings
  - o Engage in citizenship through respectful interactions
  - o Articulate how local engagement fosters individual and collective wellbeing
- Local does not necessarily mean Huntingdon, PA. Local means highly contextualized, place-based learning that will be unique to the location and the community. Some students may fill the requirement while abroad. For example – The Cultural Learning Tour course to the Dominican Republic is a CEL designated course.
- Students will have choices. Using the Stanford Pathways framework (below) the goal is to make sure students identify LE learning opportunities that align with their talents, interests and values.



- Possibilities for meeting the LE requirement include:
  - A variety of CEL-designated courses across many departments (Group Communication, IMA, Language in Motion)
  - Approved internships
  - Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty Internship
  - Student teaching
  - Juniata's Leadership Program
  - Newman Civic Fellowship
  - Publicly engaged scholarship/research projects
  - Approved leadership roles in clubs/student organizations that engage with community through one of the pathways