SERVICE AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES
EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS
INTRODUCTION

The College of Education and Human Development (COEHD) at UMaine is committed to preparing graduates to engage in ethical conduct, reflective practice, meaningful inquiry, and data-driven decision making, so that they grow as leaders within their professions. We strongly encourage all COEHD students to be engaged in learning experiences with diverse populations beyond their required courses which will enhance their knowledge and allow them to practice the skills and dispositions needed to become contributing members of our diverse society and leaders in their professions. Therefore, all students in the COEHD are encouraged to participate throughout their educational careers at the University of Maine in field-based learning experiences and volunteer opportunities with people of diverse backgrounds from their home communities or other communities, as well as in the communities around UMaine.

To assist students in identifying and participating in these learning opportunities while they are on the UMaine campus, we have provided a list of varied and diverse experiences beyond their required courses and a list of opportunities provided by the UMaine Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism within the greater Orono/Old Town communities. The list of volunteer opportunities is not all-inclusive, but it does provide the coordination necessary to introduce students to the programs and the training required to be effective. The field experiences on this list were also selected because they will be valuable learning experiences and will provide evidence of their community engagement on the students’ resumes and in their educational career portfolios.

The College of Education and Human Development will provide special recognition awards for students who have shown outstanding achievement in their volunteer and field learning experiences by:

- Volunteering frequently and consistently throughout their educational careers;
- Participating in diverse settings and with diverse populations;
- Receiving positive commendations or recommendations from their field experience supervisors; and by
- Demonstrating engagement and positive impacts on learning in their field settings.

Students will be expected to upload all field experience information during their time at UMaine to the Tk-20 Unit Assessment System for tracking purposes to ensure that students encounter varied and diverse field opportunities while completing their educational program at UMaine.
Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism
Sample Opportunities

For more information on these programs or any volunteer opportunities, visit the Bodwell Center, Room 311 Memorial Union, 581-3091, www.umaine.edu/volunteer

Program: Black Bear Mentors

Description: UMaine students are matched with a student in grades 3-8 in the local community and meet once a week for 2 hours from October through April. Every mentor is provided with an orientation prior to being matched, and everyone participates in mid-year training in February. This is a site-based program. The pairs meet at the school or community location along with other pairs. Supervision and support is provided.

Age range of students: 7-14

Location of program: Old Town Elementary School, Leonard Middle School (Old Town), Lewis Libby School (Milford), and Old Town Recreation Department – Transportation provided to some sites others reachable via Community Connector.

Schedule of program: One afternoon per week (apx 2:00-5:00), Oct through Apr

Level of commitment: One academic year commitment required.

Program: Greater Old Town Communities That Care Tutoring Program

Description: Tutor 1-2 children for 1 hour 2 days per week in basic subjects like Language Arts and Math. Every tutor is provided with training/orientation.

Age range of students: Middle school (ages 11-14)

Location of program: Leonard Middle School, Old Town – reachable via Community Connector.

Schedule of program: Two afternoons per week (2:00-4:00)

Level of commitment: One semester commitment
**Program: Orono Middle School Tutoring**

Description: Tutor 1-2 children for 1 hour at least one day per week in basic subjects or foreign language (French/Spanish). Every tutor will meet with the school guidance counselor for orientation and receive training on campus.

Age range of students: Middle school (ages 11-14)

Location of program: Orono Middle School – reachable via Orono Express

Schedule of program: During the regular school day planned to meet the UMaine student’s schedule

Level of commitment: One semester commitment

**Program: Conversation/Culture Partners**

Description: A collaborative program with the Office of International Program, Intensive English Institute, Literacy Volunteers of Bangor and the Bodwell Center. The goal of the program is to match native English speakers and non-native English speakers in order to help them develop their language skills in a safe and comfortable environment. The native partner also serves as a cultural informant, while being able to glean interesting new cultural knowledge for him or herself, in the process.

Students vary in English language ability. Some have virtually no English and some are almost ready to begin University classes. The Conversation/Culture Partner Program offers students the opportunity to practice English outside the classroom environment and also an opportunity to engage with a native speaker who is not only a language resource but also a cultural resource. For the person working as a Culture/Conversation Partner with an International student, it is an opportunity to meet someone from a different culture who is learning a new language and is living in a new environment. It is also a chance to explore teaching and to find out how challenging and interesting it can be to speak with an English language learner from another culture. Students are from all over the world and some are also permanent residents or United States citizens but English is not their first language.

Age range of students: 18+

Location of program: Each pair plans where to meet, can be on campus or off.

Schedule of program: Each pair plans when to meet – at least one hour per week.

Level of commitment: Academic year commitment required.
**Program: Digital Literacy Tutor**

Description: A program offered by the Orono Public Library – assist patrons one-on-one or in small groups with a variety of computer-related tasks, such as searching on the internet, setting up email accounts, applying for jobs on line, utilizing basic programs (Word & Excel), and in the use of eReaders and tablets.

Age range of patrons: 50+

Location of program: Orono Public Library (and possibly Dirigo Pines) – reachable by Orono Express

Schedule of program: One day per week for 2-3 hours – based on the student’s availability

Level of commitment: One semester commitment

**Program: Jobs for Maine Graduates Support**

Description: Work with the JMG Instructor at Old Town High School to facilitate projects with high school freshmen. Projects will focus on community service, but will include introduction to aspects of the JMG curriculum.

Age range of students: High school freshmen

Location of program: Old Town High School – reachable via Community Connector

Schedule of program: Spring semester – 2-3 days per week during the school day, planned to match the UMaine student’s availability.

Level of commitment: One semester commitment

**Program: Leonards Mills Enrichment Programming Development**

Description: Work with the Maine Forest and Logging Museum to develop after school activities based on the rich history of Maine’s forest and logging industry. Once developed, volunteers will be utilized to facilitate the afterschool programs at various area schools, at the museum, and other locations in the community.

Age range of students: All – not hands on

Location of program: Leonards Mills in Bradley, etc.

Schedule of program: Based on UMaine student’s schedule

Level of commitment: Each project/program can be completed within one semester
Program: Leonards Mills Enrichment Programming Facilitation

Description: Facilitate programs for school-aged children to educate them about Maine’s rich history of logging and forestry.

Age range of students: All

Location of program: Various – local schools, Leonards Mills in Bradley, community sites

Schedule of program: Various (during school, after school, weekends – as planned)

Level of commitment: Each project/program can be completed within one semester.

Program: Special Olympics Volunteers 1

Description: Work with Special Olympics athletes to help officiate events, keep score, sign in athletes or to improve their athletic skills and abilities in preparation for upcoming competitions.

Age range of students: youth and adults

Location of program: Various – some available on campus

Schedule of program: (Waiting for schedule)

Level of commitment: Commit to working on individual events or work with athletes weekly during the school year.

Program: Literacy Volunteers of Bangor

Description: Literacy Volunteers of Bangor (LV-Bangor) provides free tutor support to adults with the lowest levels of literacy. Through trained and dedicated volunteers, LV-Bangor helps adults who want to improve their reading, writing, and/or English speaking abilities.

Age range of students: 18+

Location of program: Each pair plans where to meet, typically in the community.

Schedule of program: Each pair plans when to meet, at least one hour per week.

Level of commitment: Minimum one year commitment, prefer more.
Program: Big Brothers Big Sisters of MidMaine.

Description: Big Brothers Big Sisters of MidMaine is committed to bringing a little magic into the everyday lives of children by matching them with screened, trained volunteers in one-to-one relationships in two models: Site-based mentoring and community-based mentoring.

Age range of students: School-aged

Location of program: Site-based programs take place in Bangor and Winterport. Community-based program requires the mentor to plan individual meetings with their mentee and provide transportation.

Schedule of program: Varies

Level of commitment: One academic year commitment required.

Program: “Connecting the Dots” Skype Mentoring

Description: "Promise Neighborhood" schools are located in high poverty counties in Southeastern Kentucky, a few of which can be found on the Top 50 "poorest counties in the nation" listing, one of which is #1 and another ranked #4.

Although many students don't officially drop out of school until high school, the student’s disengagement with their schoolwork can almost always be traced back to an earlier age. If the problem isn’t addressed prior to attending high school, those students will almost surely be overwhelmed once they enter high school and are very likely to give up and drop out. To prevent this we want to engage these targeted 8th grade students with University Mentors, who will provide young people with positive role models since they who have stayed in school and are now fully engaged in college. This is accomplished through 45 minute "skyping sessions" twice monthly with the 8th grade students. Curriculum/activities are provided for each session.

Age range of students: Grades 8-12

Location of program: Skype!

Schedule of program: During the school day – planned to meet the UMaine student’s schedule.

Level of commitment: One academic year commitment required.

Contact:
Other Volunteer Opportunities
Self-Initiated

Who said that you have to go far away in order to have meaningful volunteer experiences? Following are a number of opportunities to help in local communities ranging from assisting in libraries to being a museum guide, or even working in a hospital. Also, please don’t forget – we are in Maine – so be sure to make note of all the outdoor volunteer opportunities available to you! There is something here for everyone, so don’t hesitate to get in touch!

Amicus is a private, non-profit organization whose primary mission is to provide supports, programs and services that enhance the quality of life and independence of people with disabilities. Through a range of individualized services we seek to promote abilities and achievements that contribute to self-respect, personal development, purposeful work, and meaningful participation in the community. For further information, contact Kelley Skolfield at 941-2890 (kskolfield@amicusgroup.org) or see http://amicusgroup.org

Local YMCAs offer many programs with something for all ages including health and fitness, nutrition counseling and personalized meal planning, aquatics, martial arts, sports, childcare, camps, youth-at-risk programs, leadership development, women's health and more. Try a class, swim in the pools, work up a sweat in the workout room, volunteer, be a mentor, help support your local community. See

Bangor YMCA (207-941-2808)
Old Town – Orono YMCA (207-827-6111)
Ellsworth Down East Family YMCA (207-664-0120)
Mount Desert Island YMCA (207-288-3019)

Local Recreation Departments offer afterschool and summer programming and are often seeking volunteers and mentors.

Old Town Recreation Dept., Orono Recreation Dept., Bangor Recreation Dept.

Boy Scouts of America –Since August of 1920, the Katahdin Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, Incorporated mission has been to "serve others by helping to instill values in young people and, in other ways, to prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime in achieving their full potential". Their vision is that scouting will continue to:

· Offer young people responsible fun and adventure;
· Instill in young people lifetime values and develop in them ethical character as expressed in the Scout Oath & Law;
· Train young people in citizenship, service, and leadership; and
· Serve America’s communities and families with its quality, values-based program.

Contact: 207-866-2241

**Challenger Learning Center** - The Challenger Learning Center (CLCofMe) is a private, non-profit, 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation offering educational programs for students and families throughout Maine. Their Mission:

*Through a diversity of programs we educate students and teachers in order to inspire an active lifelong passion for space and Earth science.*

Currently, an unacceptably high proportion of Maine’s middle school students do not meet state standards for educational attainment in mathematics and science. And while a high percentage of our students graduate from high school, too few go on to college - largely because of low aspirations. The Challenger Learning Center of Maine directly addresses these problems. Their programs are designed to:

- Inspire our young students to achieve higher levels of education, particularly in the areas of mathematics and science;
- Encourage students to choose careers more aligned with mathematics and science;
- Motivate more of our local graduates to pursue technology-based opportunities within the State of Maine.

In addition to simulated space missions, the Challenger Center offers professional development opportunities for educators, science education camps during school year and summer vacations, and a variety of family events promoting scientific literacy in everyday life.

Contact: 207-990-2900, info@clofme.org

**Cole Land Transportation Museum** - Their purpose at the Cole Land Transportation Museum is to collect, preserve, and display (before they disappear forever) a cross section of Maine’s land transportation equipment from which this and future generations will gain knowledge of the past.

They also wish to remember, record and display U.S. military memorabilia to forever remind this and future generations of the high price our comrades have paid to protect our freedom.

In doing so, they hope to inspire and challenge the young people of today to continue on in the footsteps of pioneers who have built our state and country.

Contact: 207-990-3600
Local Hospitals

**Eastern Maine Medical Center** - Eastern Maine Medical Center volunteers are community ambassadors for healthy lifestyles and compassionate living. They serve patients, support families, and assist the staff in striving to fulfill EMMC's mission with caring, competence and dignity.

Contact: 207-973-7850, [http://www.emmc.org/volunteer.aspx](http://www.emmc.org/volunteer.aspx)

**St. Joseph Hospital** - The St. Joseph Hospital Volunteer Department assists in placing volunteers throughout the hospital in various capacities. Volunteers donate countless hours of service delivering mail and flowers, performing clerical duties and staffing the Front Desk area.

Volunteers of all ages and experience levels are welcome to consider joining in the service to our community. The Volunteer Department will work to match your unique skills to the needs within the hospital.

If interested, please apply through the volunteer webpage.

**Fort James House (part of UCP of Maine)** – Fort James House welcomes you to share your talents, time and heart with us. It only takes a little to make a big difference in someone’s life. There are many ways you can make a difference - from donations to volunteer work, your support goes a long way.

If you have any questions or would like more information on volunteering at UCP please contact Adam Marquis [adam.marquis@ucpofmaine.org](mailto:adam.marquis@ucpofmaine.org) or 941-2952 Ex. 238.

**Girls Scouts of America** – Girl Scouts offers many exciting ways to volunteer that can be tailored to fit your calendar, your skills, and your interests. Whether you choose to work directly with girls or get involved behind the scenes, on a short or long-term basis, Girl Scouts of Maine will provide you with all the information and support you need.

Contact - Statewide, toll-free number : 1-888-922-4763

*South Portland Service Center: (207) 772-1177 Shop: (207) 874-2648 or 1-800-260-2648 Fax: (207) 874-2646*

*Bangor Service Center: (207) 989-7474 Shop: (207) 989-1774 or 1-800-464-3858 Fax: (207) 989-7478*
**Good Samaritan Agency** – The purpose of the Good Samaritan Agency is to help individuals who have special needs concerning pregnancy and parenting to gain the services and support they need to improve the quality of their lives.

Contact: 207-942-7211

**Local Libraries**

**Bangor Public Library** – Please refer to the Bangor Public Library [Website](#) for a variety of volunteer opportunities.

**Orono Public Library** – Please contact the library directly for volunteer opportunities.

**Old Town Public Library** – Please contact the library directly for information about volunteer opportunities.


Their purpose is to encourage creativity, nurture a sense of wonder, and to challenge all to learn in new and innovative ways. They can’t do this without volunteers! A typical time commitment would be a minimum of four hours per month. Depending on your availability however, alternatives can be arranged.

Contact: [lclaverie@mainediscoverymuseum.org](mailto:lclaverie@mainediscoverymuseum.org).

**Maine Youth Fish and Game** – The Maine Youth Fish and Game Association was established for the purpose of promoting the love and respect for the Maine outdoors by the youth of Maine and extending to these youth, the treasures of experience in the outdoors.

Their mission is to share with our children in the beauty and bounty of nature in all its works; to teach the ways of wildlife, to promote conservation, the importance of habitat, and the joys of discovery to be found in the woods, waters, and the skies of Maine.

Contact: [info@maineyouthfishandgame.org](mailto:info@maineyouthfishandgame.org)
Page Farm and Home Museum - The mission of the Page Farm & Home Museum is to collect, document, preserve, interpret and disseminate knowledge of Maine history relating to farms and farming communities between 1865 and 1940, providing an educational and cultural experience for the public and a resource for researchers of this period.

Contact: 207-581-4100, pagefarm@umit.maine.edu

Other Learning Opportunities to Explore Diversity

Compiled by Dr. John Maddaus

It has long been understood that a great teacher resume includes numerous experiences working with diverse populations. Following are a number of opportunities you may wish to explore to help you gain this valuable experience. Remember that the more you get out of your comfort zone, the greater the potential reward will be. You will expand the range of your pedagogy, make professional contacts and learn how to establish positive interactions with diverse student groups who represent the face of public education today and in the future.

Project REACH offers 5 courses in teaching English as a Second Language – Scholarship for pre-service teacher education students covers the cost of tuition plus a stipend. Courses are mostly online or summer session. For more information contact Shelly Chasse-Johndro (Shelly Chasse on First Class) or go to http://umaine.edu/projectreach/

Field Experience: Urban and Rural Education (EDG 425) is a new course that includes visits to about six different urban and rural schools, including a day-long trip to a school in Auburn and an after-school program in Lewiston. Satisfies the Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives General Education requirement. For more information, contact John Maddaus (on First Class).

Student Teaching placements in schools with diverse student populations in southern Maine can be arranged. For more information, contact Pam Kimball or Dan Ross (on First Class).
**Student Teaching Abroad** can be arranged in Australia, China, New Zealand, and Spain. There are scholarships you can apply for to help pay expenses. For more information, contact Orlina Boteva, Study Abroad coordinator in the Office of International Programs -- [http://umaine.edu/international/](http://umaine.edu/international/) -- or Pam Kimball or Dan Ross (on First Class).

**Culturefest** and **International Dancefest** are annual events (Fall and Spring, respectively) sponsored by the Office of International Programs -- [http://umaine.edu/international/](http://umaine.edu/international/)

The **Office of Multicultural Student Affairs** provides services for multicultural students, as well as various events for everyone at UMaine, such as last year’s Hunger Banquet. For more information, contact Judith Josiah-Martin, Director, or go to [http://umaine.edu/multicultural/](http://umaine.edu/multicultural/)

The **Wabanaki Center** and **Native American Studies** program (collectively, Native American Programs) offer events and courses (respectively) about Maine’s 4 Wabanaki tribes and indigenous peoples throughout North America, open to all students at UMaine. For further information see: [http://www.naps.umaine.edu](http://www.naps.umaine.edu) and [http://umaine.edu/americannativeindianstudies/](http://umaine.edu/americannativeindianstudies/)

The **Franco-American Centre Franco-Américan** and **Franco-American Studies** Program offer events and courses (respectively) about Franco-Americans in Maine and beyond, open to all. For more information, see: [http://umaine.edu/francoamerican/](http://umaine.edu/francoamerican/) and [http://umaine.edu/francoamericanstudies/](http://umaine.edu/francoamericanstudies/)

The **Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies** program (new name beginning next fall, until now the Women in Curriculum/Women’s Studies program) offers courses, events, and resources about women, including a variety of issues regarding gender and sexuality. For more information, see [https://umaine.edu/womensstudies/](https://umaine.edu/womensstudies/)

The **Women’s Resource Center** offers programs and events about women – see [http://www.wrc.umaine.edu](http://www.wrc.umaine.edu)

The **Center for Community Inclusion and Disabilities Studies** offers programs, services and courses related to disability. For more information, see [http://ccids.umaine.edu](http://ccids.umaine.edu)
The **Upward Bound Math/Science Program** and **Maine Talent Search** offer programs for secondary school students who are from low-income families and could be the first generation in their immediate families to attend college or university. Upward Bound Math/Science hires college students as staff for the program’s six-week on-campus summer program. For further information, see [umaine.edu/ub](http://umaine.edu/ub) and [http://mets.maine.edu](http://mets.maine.edu)

The **Canadian-American Center** offers courses, study abroad and internship opportunities in Canada, and resources for students interested in our nearest neighbor (about 90 miles out the “airline” (Route 9). For further information, see: [umaine.edu/canam/students](http://umaine.edu/canam/students)

The **Hudson Museum** in the Collins Center for the Arts is an anthropology museum offering exhibits, online resources, and programs about Maine’s Wabanaki (Native American) tribes, as well as about a variety of other cultures around the world. For further information, see: [http://www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum/](http://www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum/)

The **Intensive English Institute** has a **Conversation/Culture Partners** program through which native speakers of English can converse with adult English language learners, helping the latter improve their English conversation skills and knowledge of American culture, while the native speaker learns about the culture of the English language learner’s country of origin. For further information, see [http://umaine.edu/iei/home/conversationculture-partners/](http://umaine.edu/iei/home/conversationculture-partners/)

The **Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism** offers a wide variety of service and service learning programs, on and off campus, that range from a few hours to a weekly commitment. For further information, see [http://umaine.edu/volunteer/programs/](http://umaine.edu/volunteer/programs/)

**Modern Languages and Classic Department** is one of several departments that offer courses meeting the Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement. For further information, see [umaine.edu/mlandc](http://umaine.edu/mlandc)

**Tree Street Youth Project** supports the youth of Lewiston-Auburn through academics, the arts and athletics. They provide the youth with a safe space that encourages healthy physical, social, emotional, and academic development while building unity across lines of difference. For further information, see TreeStreetYouth.org or e-mail treestreetyouth@gmail.com