

# LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

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only and include a study abroad component. Previous trips include Amsterdam, Belize, London, and Paris.

College of the Mainland is committed to connecting students to the community in a mutually growth-enhancing cycle. This section provides information about opportunities to connect with the community.

## Career Services

COM's Career Services Department helps students make connections with employers. The faculty members within each workforce program are also very instrumental in assisting students with possible job opportunities. Each academic advisor is a certified career coach and can assist you in choosing your major/pathway and career.

## Clinicals

COM's nursing and allied health programs require clinical experiences. These experiences provide opportunities for students to learn and apply program theory and management of the work flow. These clinicals are closely supervised with instruction and theory provided concurrently. Clinicals are designed so they are consistent with industry standards, support specific written objectives outlined by the program, and emphasize current practices in the field of specialization.

## Cooperative Education

Cooperative education is a structured method of combining classroom-based education with practical work experience. A cooperative education experience, commonly known as a 'co-op', provides academic credit for structured job experience.

## Internships

Many of COM's workforce programs provide internship experiences. These experiences provide workplace settings in which students learn and apply program theory and management of the work flow and are closely supervised with instruction and theory provided concurrently. Internships are designed so they are consistent with industry standards, support specific written objectives outlined by the program, and emphasize current practices in the field of specialization.

## Practicum

A practicum is an unpaid, competency-based external learning experiences that supplements lectures and laboratory instruction. Practicums are offered in some COM healthcare programs to provide students with practical experience in the industry to enhance skills and integrate knowledge. Practicums are directed by faculty or a clinical preceptor.

## Service Learning

Service learning courses provide students the opportunity engage in a hands on experience in the community as part of the course requirements. Typically students will spend about one-third of the course contact hours in service learning experiences within the community.

## Study Abroad

Study abroad courses are offered through the Texas Gulf Coast International Education Consortium (TGCIE). Courses are offered online