

UW-L

Continuing Education
and Extension

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Certificate Programs



Credit Courses



Youth Programs



**Conferences &
Workshops**



Learning Communities



Learning in Retirement

Connecting the University and the community

Dear Friends:

The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse is ranked one of the best in the nation, according to Kiplinger's and U.S. News & World Report. Continuing Education and Extension (CEE) extends that outstanding academic reputation for teaching, learning, discovery and service throughout the community. University-community collaboration is mutually beneficial, "Connecting the university and the community."

In 2002-2003, CEE offered quality educational programs that enabled non-traditional students to earn degrees and certificates, accomplish professional development goals, participate in conferences, meet licensure requirements and pursue leisure and academic interests.

As our programs, services and partnerships have expanded, so has our service area. Credit courses, conferences and workshops took us to all parts of the state and to Illinois and California as well.

This report highlights examples of programs, services and partnerships that reached beyond the university campus to learners of all ages. Please contact us if you have any questions or want to work with us in any way.

M. Donald Campbell
Director

PROGRAMS

Addressing the needs of learners across their lifetime through:

- Expanding learning communities, credit courses, certificate programs, workshops and conferences
- Increasing online programs and other distance learning opportunities
- Supporting increased job skills, career advancement, professional crediting and intellectual development
- Accommodating students of all ages, from youth to adults to learners in retirement
- Serving educators, health and human service professionals, allied health professionals, business owners and managers, other professionals and the general public

Certificate Programs

- The University of Wisconsin is developing an online credit Gerontology Certificate program that combines the expertise of seven UW institutions. UW-L will deliver the first course, Foundations of Gerontology, this fall over the Internet. This 18-credit undergraduate certificate is offered completely online.
- The Gerontology Certificate, a two-year non-credit program designed for health and human services professionals and other interested individuals, had 22 learners enrolled this year.
- In partnership with Chileda, CEE offered the Autism Spectrum Disorders Certificate program. Thirty-four adults completed the 30-hour certificate this year.
- The UW-L Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offered the Supervisory Management Certificate program, a series of professional development seminars to over 124 business managers.



"This was one of the best programs. The speakers were knowledgeable, entertaining and very informative."

Gerontology student

"Working with CEE and the Gerontology Certificate committee has been so rewarding. I feel so fortunate that I have been part of the creation of such a wonderful resource for those individuals who want to expand their knowledge and skills."

--Linda Erickson, Bethany Lutheran Homes

Credit Courses

- Exercise and Sport Science (ESS) Master of Science Physical Education Teaching graduate program used a cohort format for its new three-year rotation of classes in Beaver Dam. ESS also offered the Master of Science Sport Administration option in Pewaukee with other courses held in La Crosse and Bayfield. Total enrollment for the 18 courses was 277.
- CEE and the Black River Falls school district offered a course for 19 beginning and experienced teachers that explored the new state teacher licensing requirements (PI-34) and helped them design professional development plans.
- Biology 105 was offered to 20 advanced high school students in partnership with the La Crosse School District.
- Six Trait Writing Curriculum was offered for the Onalaska, Whitehall and Blair-Taylor school districts, serving 30 educators in total.
- The 10th annual Washburn Academy, offered in partnership with the School of Education and the Cooperative Educational Services Agency (CESA) #4, resulted in 350 graduate enrollments from the two academy weeks in Holmen and Onalaska.
- CEE partnered with the La Crosse school district to provide credit for 20 educators attending the North Woods Elementary Early Childhood conference.
- Other education courses offered included assessment workshops for 27 teachers in partnership with CESA #4 and more than 20 credit courses highlighting current issues and trends in education.



“The enthusiasm of the facilitators, the organization of the materials and knowledge presented was great. I look forward to next semester.”

– ESS Physical Education Teaching student

Learning Communities

- The Master of Education-Professional Development (ME-PD) Learning Community program launched its first “laptop learning community” in Rice Lake. Throughout the two-year graduate program, 38 teachers integrate technology into the curriculum using individual laptop computers, streaming video equipment and networking devices.
- In partnership with the UW-L School of Education and Learning Quest, Inc., CEE administered the ME-PD Learning Community program for 950 teachers and school professionals. Learning Communities were organized in Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, Sparta, Richland Center, Reedsburg, Columbus, Sun Prairie, Monona, McFarland, Watertown, Pewaukee, Burlington, Milton, Monroe, Durand, Chippewa Falls, Stanley-Boyd, Bloomer, New Richmond, Turtle Lake, Rice Lake, Spooner and Medford. In May, 321 graduate students received their ME-PD degree from this program.
- More than 1,000 ME-PD Learning Community students and alumni, school district administrators, and UW-L faculty and staff convened at the La Crosse Center for the fifth annual Learning Community conference, developed by CEE, the School of Education and Learning Quest. Participants attended sessions to enhance teaching practices, better meet the needs of diverse learners and learn new ways to motivate students.



“This degree program was outstanding. The course work was directly applicable to my classroom and tied directly to my school and district goals. Learning that I’ll remember a lifetime.”

Learning Community student

Facilitating Learning in Community was one of the first, completely online classes that worked well for both the students and the instructor. The participants loved it because they could take a class and still go to work.

*--Dr. Ronda Knox,
Communication Studies*

PROGRAMS Conferences & Workshops

Health & Human Services

- Parenting Teens: The Joys and Challenges Facing Hmong Parents attracted 130 local Hmong residents. Conducted in Hmong, the program featured Dr. Cher Teng Vang, a nationally known and well-respected speaker throughout Hmong communities in the U.S.
- The International Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference developed in partnership with the UW-L Center for Death Education and Bioethics, brought together 90 professionals and individuals dealing with grief from Canada, Japan and throughout the United States.
- The 2003 Wisconsin Lower Extremity Symposium and Workshops cosponsored by the UW-L Physical Therapy Department and Gundersen Lutheran Sports Medicine, drew 54 physical therapists and athletic trainers from several states.
- The Basic Emergency Lifesaving Skills in Schools (BELSS) workshops attracted 60 health educators and social workers.
- Community Health workshops included Working with our Youth for Healthier Living, Stress Management and Relaxation Skills and Experiential Learning Strategies for Health Education.

Sciences

- Assessment of Ecological and Human Health Impacts of Mercury in the Bay-Delta Watershed workshops were held in Monterey, California, in partnership with professor James Wiener, a nationally known expert on mercury pollution. The program assisted California in determining scientific and management approaches for reducing mercury pollution in the Bay-Delta Watershed.
- More than 150 environmentalists attended the 19th annual meeting of the American Chestnut Foundation, focusing on The West Salem Stand: Implications for Restoration. The Badgersett Research farm in West Salem represents the largest remaining stand of American chestnuts in the nation.
- The 26th annual Waterbird Society Meeting, held in partnership with the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, brought 120 scientists and conservation-minded individuals together from throughout the world to present findings and hear what experts have discovered about waterfowl.
- Twenty natural resource professionals attended the Landscape Analysis of Freshwater Mussels in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The workshops were made possible by a grant from the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center.
- Five Wetland Delineation Training workshops were offered attracting 82 natural resource professionals. Partners included the UW-L River Studies Center, Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, Department of Administration, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and other state and federal agencies.

Education



- Transforming the Difficult Adolescent workshop was attended by more than 220 professionals involved with difficult teenagers or children. The program was held in partnership with the Savannah Family Institute, and Stein Counseling and Consulting Services.

- The Gifted and Talented workshops, cosponsored by the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network, were attended by 96 educators and parents from a number of area school districts.
- A Substitute Teacher Workshop was cosponsored by UW-L Clinical Field Experiences.
- Over 735 international educators attended a National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA) regional conference held in Chicago.





“I appreciated the fact that UW-L offers this opportunity. My daughter is in her third year of Girls in Science and she keeps coming back because she enjoys it and there is always something new to try. Keep up the good work.”

– Girls in Science parent

Business

- CEE worked with the Small Business Development Center on the United Coulee Region economic summit “Building on Success: Tools for Collaboration.” More than 150 community members attended.
- Women in Leadership, developed by campus and community leaders, in partnership with Chancellor Hastad, targeted women in the Coulee Region who seek additional support, guidance and educational information in the area of leadership.
- The UW-L Small Business Development Center offered 30 workshops to local business communities in the areas of international business, management, pre-venture and technology.

Other Conferences & Workshops

- The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)- La Crosse Area Synod held its annual meeting at UW-L attracting more than 325 members and visitors.
- Four workshops on fishing and hunting attracted 33 individuals. Hand Crafting Lures that Catch Fish, Stalking Wild Turkey, Early Season Northern Pike and Spring Walleye were offered by professional angler and sportsman, Bob Bott.
- Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People was offered for the third year.
- The 15th annual Mini-HEP (Harmony Education Program), a program designed to improve vocal singing techniques and performance presentation, was attended by more than 100 barbershop singers from Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Youth Programs

Four new youth programs were introduced:

- The Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired held its first fine arts summer program on campus. More than 50 blind or visually impaired adolescent students attended courses in art, theater, dance and music.
- More than 30 cyclists attended the USA Cycling Athlete Development camp. The top six young men and women riders from the three days of competition advanced to the national camp at the U.S. Olympic Training Center.
- Harmony Explosion Camp, a program that introduced barbershop harmony and glee-club music, attracted 40 high school boys.
- Hooked on Fishing was attended by 23 middle and high school students.
- Other pre-college programs, offered to 669 middle school and high school students included:
 - The 14th annual Young Scholars program
 - Girls in Science, in partnership with the Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth
 - Environmental Explorers, in partnership with the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center
 - The fourth annual Vocal Jazz Camp
 - KIDS College, in partnership with the Mississippi Valley Gifted and Talented Network
 - Academic Decathlon, in partnership with Cooperative Educational Services Agency (CESA) #4

“My experience with CEE and working with the Young Scholars and Girls in Science kids has been great! I continue to teach the programs every summer because not only do the students learn new things but I do too. It’s very rewarding for both of us.”

–Dr. Sandra Koster, Chemistry

PROGRAMS

Older Adult Programs

- Thirty-seven Learning in Retirement (LIR) members traveled to Cuba to explore the country from a historical and contemporary perspective through visits to museums, landmarks and cultural centers. This was the first LIR group in the United States to go to Cuba
- An Elderhostel program, Jazz on the Mississippi, was attended by 51 seniors from across the country. The program ran in conjunction with the 18th annual Great River Jazz Fest.



"I look forward to the various programs throughout the year. I especially like friendly and interactive atmosphere."

— Learning in Retirement member

- The LIR organization expanded its course offerings for its 225 members. The 29 programs offered this past year included Birding, Global Energy, Understanding Prejudice in America, World Religions and Music: Composer to Concert. LIR creates an ongoing forum for senior adults who have mutual interest in intellectual pursuits and cultural enrichment.



"CEE has become a significant branch of UW-L's standard of academic excellence. Any student interested in continuing their education through UW-L would not be disappointed in the level of instruction, course offerings and applicability to the real world."

— Dr. Paul Plinske, Intercollegiate Athletics

"CEE was invaluable in facilitating the Cuba trip in many ways. The CEE office handled our correspondence, publicity, financial matters, as well as pre- and post-meetings for the study tour."

— Dr. Burt Altman,
professor emeritus, LIR member

Distance Education

- Facilitating Learning in Community, a three-credit online course, was offered to 11 educators. The course gave participants who facilitate or wish to facilitate the ME-PP Learning Community program skills that support community building and learning in community.
- Interpretation of Current Research, a required course for both the Master of Science Sport Administration and Physical Education Teaching emphases was offered using the Internet. The class had three face-to-face meetings with the majority of the course completed online.
- Introduction to Family History Online was offered to the general public. Geared for the novice genealogist, the class guides participants step-by-step through basic research strategies.
- Five credit courses using distance-learning technology were offered to area educators via the Western Wisconsin Linked Education and Resource Network (WWLEARN) and the Wisconsin Overlay Network for Distance Education Resources (WONDER).

	Number of Programs	Number of Enrollments
Certificate Programs	20	280
Credit Courses	77	940
Learning Community*	135	5,484
Youth Programs	15	680
Conferences & Workshops	42	2,812
Learning Retirement	29	973
Distance Education	8	63
TOTAL	326	11,232

* Total of 878 students enrolled fall semester; total of 950 students enrolled spring semester

SERVICES

Improving lifelong learning through:

- Market research and consultation
 - Program development
 - Program marketing
 - Distance learning support
 - Program management
 - Program evaluation
- CEE began online registration, allowing customers to register with a credit card for credit courses online in a secure environment. Registrations are now taken for credit and non-credit programs through the Internet.
 - A Guestbook request form was added to the CEE web site giving individuals a forum to leave comments, ask questions or request information. The form captures visitor information that helps to gauge the site's success and identifies future online strategies.
 - CEE organized a roundtable discussion to obtain feedback from the community about marketing activities. Key community professionals offered valuable insights specifically centered on Access, our semi-annual publication.
 - Our service area continued to expand. Credit courses, conferences and workshops were delivered to Eau Claire, Marshfield, Bayfield, Wisconsin Rapids, Mauston, Wisconsin Dells, Madison, Beaver Dam, Pewaukee, Waukesha, Green Bay, Chicago and Monterey, California.

CEE's custom programs are dedicated to providing the finest professional development opportunities for nonprofit, business, government and other organizations throughout the Seven Rivers Region. Our custom programs are designed to support strategic organizational objectives as well as to meet specific skill development needs of the work force

Our staff will work directly with you to assess needs, identify educational resources, coordinate the delivery of programs and services, and ensure your satisfaction.

Our programs can be offered on campus, at your workplace, at other locations or through distance education technology. Delivery can be scheduled for days, evenings, or weekends. Use CEE's custom programs as an alternative or supplement to your own in-house training.

Benefits:

- You determine when, where and what
- You select the participants
- Your employees learn together as a staff/team
- Everyone receives the same information at the same time
- Skills learned one day are put to use the next
- You achieve across-the-board results
- Customized programming is cost-effective

Please contact us to determine how we can work with you.

"It was a pleasure working with the CEE office. The overall success of Assessment of Ecological and Human Health Impacts of Mercury in the Bay-Delta Watershed workshops can clearly be attributed in part to the very successful work that you do. In this we should all take considerable pride."
-- Dr. Jim Wiener,
River Studies

PARTNERSHIPS

Enhancing and developing relationships between the university and its communities, including:

- School districts
- Educational service organizations
- Professional and trade associations
- Area health and human service organizations
- Healthcare providers
- Local, state and federal agencies
- Military organizations
- Higher education institutions

- UW-L Foundation provided \$5,000 in scholarships for youth programs.
- Gunderson Lutheran Medical Foundation provided \$5,000 and Baywood Publishing provided \$1,500 in support for the International Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference.

- CEE was named the western Wisconsin partner of the Wisconsin Geriatric Education Center (WGEC). The WGEC is a federally funded center, based at Marquette University, whose mission is to enhance, through education and training, the quality and availability of health care for Wisconsin's aging population. CEE's professional certificate program in Gerontology was the primary impetus for WGEC's invitation to join the consortium.

PARTNERSHIPS



♦ Community Feature:

Upper Mississippi Environmental Science Center

The Upper Mississippi Environmental Sciences Center (UMESC), a U.S. Geological Survey facility located in La Crosse and Onalaska, has been a partner of CEE for more than 10 years. The Center provides scientific information needed to successfully manage the natural resources of two large ecosystems, the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes.

Through our partnership, we have offered such programs and conferences as the Environmental Explorers, the 26th annual Waterbird Society Meeting, Landscape Analysis of Freshwater Mussels in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, Sustaining the Ecological Integrity of Large Floodplain Rivers and an annual National GAP analysis program. Together we have served the needs of a wide range of audiences – from natural resource professionals to elementary school students.

“What has made this relationship such a success is that we both respect each other’s areas of experience and knowledge,” says Penny Tiedt, Assistant Director. “They are the experts in delivering scientific information to resource managers, planners and other customers. UMESC looks to us as the experts to provide conference support, including planning, marketing, logistics, financial management and overall program execution. It makes for a winning combination.”

It’s the dedication of resourceful community partners like UMESC whose collaboration in program planning, development and delivery help to meet the needs of professionals and the general public.



“I enjoyed the workshops. I learned a great deal and the information was very useful and relevant to my work.”

– Wetland Delineation student

♦ Faculty Feature:

Timothy Gerber, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor, Biology/Microbiology

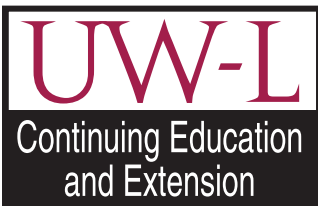


CEE recruits and engages the active involvement of UW-L faculty partners from a wide range of academic disciplines. It’s these partners that enable us to deliver high quality learning opportunities. Tim Gerber is a prime example of our dedicated and talented faculty whose commitment and creativity is extended both on and off campus.

Gerber is a member of the River Studies Center and an associate professor in the biology department at UW-La Crosse. He first began working with us when the River Studies Center and CEE partnered with the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration, Wisconsin Coastal Management Program to offer wetland training for natural resource professionals. Gerber continues to oversee the implementation and growth of the wetland-related workshops. The program has expanded from two basic workshops to five basic and advanced workshops over the years.

Gerber has also taught in Young Scholars, a pre-college program for elementary and high school students. “CEE programs and workshops allow me to share knowledge with nontraditional students and the general public. It creates an opportunity for faculty, students and the community to learn from each other,” says Gerber.

He is a guest speaker at many areas schools educating both teachers and students about plant biology. It’s his upbeat personality and his sense of humor that makes him successful, both as a teacher on campus and in the community.



University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
University of Wisconsin-Extension
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

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