Immersive Learning provides a framework for Ball State faculty and students to connect with Indiana businesses, nonprofit organizations, communities, and state agencies through mutually beneficial projects.

**Students** benefit by gaining experience and expertise beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

**Faculty** benefit when they adapt traditional teaching into a collaborative applied model, which leads to deeper community connections and possible avenues for scholarly publications.

**Community partners** benefit when students examine their challenges from a fresh perspective.
In the field of Speech-Language Pathology, there is a lack of standardized recipes for thickened liquids used to treat patients diagnosed with dysphagia. This project focused on the use of physics and objective testing of viscosity, specifically examining the type of thickening agent used, the time required to obtain the appropriate viscosity, and the recipe that is consistent with the liquid utilized during evaluation. Students utilized the scientific means of measuring (viscometers) to conduct testing in addition to 10mL slip syringe test for IDDSI, to compare the viscosity of each liquid mixed. Students conducted interviews with practicing speech-language pathologists and collaborate with the community partners to ensure current recipes are being tested. At the conclusion of the semester, the students disseminated the information during a 1½-hour presentation. The anticipated outcome would be a table for practicing clinicians to reference regarding the thickening agent to liquid ratio, temperature and resting times utilized to create clinical recipes for patients’ home use.

Emily Carrier, Miranda Cofer, Abby Dzurisin, Aline Finch, Tyler Kern, Braven Lavigne, Natalie Lichtenberger, Amani Martin, Dunja Milinovic, Kenzi Potts, Catherine Straley, Quincy Thompson, Daniel Torres, Samantha Underwood, Abby Way, Kristin Wietecha

Faculty Mentors: Mary Ewing, Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology; Ranjith Wijesinghe, Department of Physics

Community Partners: St. Vincent Health System (Molly Jones, M.A., CCC-SLP); Catherine Seitz, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-S
The Ara Project is a conservation organization based in Costa Rica whose mission is to restore the endangered Macaw population. This project team had an opportunity to work with this international organization to help shape public policy by informing the public and promoting conservation of the endangered Macaw species in Costa Rica and around the world. Through the planning and implementation of a complex, public relations campaign for The Ara Project, the students were responsible for the development and implementation of a public relations campaign in Costa Rica, development and implementation of a global campaign and a rebuild of a comprehensive website. These campaigns will target policy makers, citizens, conservation leaders, the hospitality industry, major donors and international eco tourists. The students gained experience in public relations, fundraising, web design and content management, media analytics, photography, videography and writing for traditional and social media.

Adeline Border, Sara Chokenea, Ashley Curry, Cady Dawson, Grace Hagan, Derek Heim, Daysha Jarvis, Megan Kicks, Caroline Koby, Dorian Mccarroll, Lacey Pamer, Samantha Passafume, Sydney Thompson, Rhea Tomlinson, Jordan Tye

Faculty Mentors: Shanetta Pendleton & Deborah Davis, Department of Journalism
Community Partners: The Ara Project, Hirons and Company
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware County

Video assets have become a necessary component for nonprofit organizations to communicate their story to potential clients, volunteers and funders. This is especially true for mentoring programs that do not show their transformative impact until their young clients have become adults. This advanced video class created digital stories that promote Big Brothers, Big Sisters’ educational mission and help to recruit volunteers for children needing the influence of a caring adult. Students designed the assets to be used in a variety of platforms to assist the organization in meeting its online, social media and recruitment goals.

Austin Bishop, Matthew Carson, Caitlynn Elkins, Adam Garner, Derald Gray, Sadik Hrustanovic, Lilly Hunchman, Michelle Majeski, Adam Martin, Meg McMahon, Michael Robb, Jack Salzman, Rebecca Shrode, Chris Sommers, Brandon Townsend, Kenzie VanGoey

Faculty Mentors: Suzanne Plesha, Office of Immersive Learning; Tim Pollard, Department of Telecommunications
Community Partner: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware County
Youth involved in the court system have a desire to participate in their court proceedings. While in the courtroom, youth are overwhelmed by complexities of different types of cases and confused by the process of adjudication and various roles of players in the legal system. Working with Pink Leaf, Department of Child Services (DCS) and CASA, the project team developed a book that will provide children a valuable guide to understand the life cycle of a court case for children in the Indiana court system, while acknowledging the child’s emotions.

Sierra Hensley, Lauren Butler

Faculty Mentors: Barbara Giorgio & Shantanu Suman, School of Art
Community Partners: Pink Leaf, CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children in Delaware County, Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and Child Welfare Improvement Committee (CWIC) for Indiana Court
Conservation Tales: Manatees, Sea Turtles, and Seahorses

Conservation Tales is a project that brings together faculty in the Department of Biology and the School of Art, with students in animation, visual communication (graphic design), photography, and elementary education to produce three volumes of children’s books about wildlife conservation featuring manatees, sea turtles, and seahorses. Each of the three volumes tell the story of a child who learns about an animal species and scientific research that is taking place to study and protect it. The series aims to help children in grades 3–5 learn about threatened species and ways the public can impact conservation. The books also demonstrate scientific processes used in wildlife research and present examples of diverse children and researchers. Each book will include actions children can do at home that can help wildlife and inquiry learning activities to support science learning in classrooms or after-school programs.

Students:
Mary Brown, Sarah DeMars, Kyra Johnson, Katherine Kordesh, Emma Mills-Rittmann, Olivia Peterson, Samantha Pfaff, Natalie Rokosz, Kendra Schemmel, Shelby Stallard, Rebecca Tripp, Julie Xiao

Faculty Mentors: Tom McConnell, Department of Biology; Barbara Giorgio, School of Art
Community Partners: Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge (FWS), US Geological Service (USGS), Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium
Muncie Civic Theatre is one of oldest civic theatres in the state and is located in one of the oldest buildings in the county. The mission of the Muncie Civic Theatre is to “enrich our whole community through theatre performance, education, and outreach.” They do this on a very small budget, and an even smaller staff. The goal of this year-long Immersive Learning project was to help this Muncie jewel improve its outreach efforts, diversity, connection to Ball State University, volunteer program, and overall impact in the community.
Students worked together to conduct research and develop dance curriculums for grades K-5, implement curriculums in Muncie Community Schools, and disseminate findings through presentations and a curriculum handbook. Upon completion of this class, the students gained a greater understanding and appreciation of the importance and power of dance in young lives, became well-versed in effective teaching methods, and developed strong collaborative skills.

Dance! Muncie After School

Adrian Alora, Jordyn Bush, Kelsey Davis, Ella Donovan, Audrey Fosson, Alexandria Koontz, Breinne Mudrack, Erin Simons, Jillian Wilschke

Faculty Mentor: Melanie Swihart, Department of Theatre and Dance
Community Partner: Muncie Community Schools
Digging into Muncie’s Local Food System

Roughly 64 percent of Muncie residents live in food deserts (defined as living more than a mile from a grocery store) and one in four children do not have access to “enough food to lead a healthy, active lifestyle,” according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Yet Muncie supports a robust and growing network of nonprofits and neighborhoods dedicated to strengthening the local food system through education and outreach. The project started in fall 2017, when an interdisciplinary team of Ball State students sparked conversation with producers, gardeners, and nonprofit leaders to inspire a storytelling movement to reflect obstacles and opportunities in East Central Indiana. This community-focused journalism has taken the form of profiles, info graphics, photos, and videos that inspire empathy, understanding and action. The website, harvestinghopemuncie.com, captures that storytelling alongside resource guides that detail pantries, farmers markets, farms and festivals in the region. A digital cookbook encourages Muncie residents to share cherished traditions and recipes, and children’s voices join in through drawings that depict favorite foods and meals.

Justice Amick, Ana Batres, Demarcus Brookins, Patrick Calvert, Rachel Ellis, Carlee Ellison, Kendall Genier, Jonathan Isbill, Maureen Langley, Tessa Lebo, Anastasia Merkel, Jamie Moynihan, Sam Oyler, Katie Porter, Kelli Reutman, Melody Smith, Kaiti Sullivan, Megan Troyer, Angelica Watts

Faculty Mentor: Kate Elliott, Department of Journalism
Community Partners: Farmished, Second Harvest East Central Indiana
Most non-profit organizations have wonderful missions but find it a huge challenge to support those missions. Working as a collaborative team, students collaborated with local non-profit organizations to identify their financial needs and to come up with different ways of supporting the organizations. The team developed promotional items ranging from brochures and pamphlets to a book of art created by street children in the Philippines as well as promotional t-shirts and stickers. In addition to providing financial support, these products will promote awareness for these organizations. By using local sustainable resources, the organizations can continue to produce these promotional items while supporting the local economy.

Students:
Kara Barstead, Jared Brinkworth, Elizabeth Burris, Sophie Gordon, Daniel Hudson, Jordan Jimenez, Kami Kleefish, Lindsey Overstreet, Billy Rollings, Amy Tuttle, Tazia Williams

Faculty Mentor: René Church, School of Art
Community Partners: Adventist Frontier Mission, Aria’s Army, Audubon Society, Cradle of Love, Delaware County Futbol, GR3, National Association of Mental Illness, Operation Blackout
Habitat for Humanity’s mission rests upon bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. The cornerstone of the organization’s global mission is to partner with qualified residents in the communities in which Habitat’s local branches operate and provide affordable housing. Habitat for Humanity of Hamilton County serves cities such as Carmel, Fishers, Noblesville and Westfield. Collectively these cities are not perceived as having a significant need for affordable housing. However, a look at the distribution of economic demographics within this county paints a much different picture pointing to a valid need for affordable housing. This common misperception is a challenge this organization faces when dealing with donations from area residents and businesses for contributions and volunteerism. The purpose of this project was to conduct a detailed assessment of the need for affordable housing within the area served by Habitat for Humanity of Hamilton County, explore Habitat’s current brand image within the community, and recommend a marketing communication platform useful for the organization to target its stakeholders.
The Ottawa National Forest in Michigan has identified a need for an outside partner to meet their management requirements for both a specific archaeological resource, and a general category of resources in the future. This project will take place over three semesters beginning with spring 2018. Students began the development of an Historic Property Plan (HPP) for the USDA Forest Service. The plan focused on a unique and important archaeological site located on the Ottawa National Forest identified as 20 ON 209. Students used existing sources to develop a regional archaeological context for the site, and transformed that knowledge into proposed management actions, objectives, and further information needs. Students developed the HPP by applying their new knowledge of federal historic preservation laws and policies, and specifically the requirements of the Forest Service Manual.

Faculty Mentors: Mark Hill, Department of Anthropology; Kevin Nolan, Applied Anthropology Laboratories
Community Partner: Ottawa National Forest
Working with representatives from Ball State’s Facilities Planning and Management department as the actual client, students, as members of an interdisciplinary team, are assessing, evaluating, prioritizing, and certifying the Ball State Letterman Communications and Media building as LEED-EB:O+M® (LEED for Existing Buildings, Operations and Maintenance). Ball State currently has eleven LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings, with two more anticipating certifications. All are (or hopefully, will be) certified under LEED-NC (LEED for New Construction) or LEED-CI (LEED for Commercial Interiors), with the first certifications awarded in 2010. These certifications evaluate the buildings during design and construction, but LEED for Existing Buildings evaluates buildings during occupancy, to see if they are performing up to their potential.

Faculty Mentors:   Janet Fick & James Jones, Department of Construction Management and Interior Design
Community Partner: Ball State Facilities Planning and Management
Using a design studio approach, students identified, conceived, and built new educational opportunities and innovative audience interactions to reach and engage existing and potential viewers of Turner Classic Movies (TCM), a cable news network known for programming and presenting the best movies of all genres and eras. At the onset of the course, a TCM representative provided an overview of desired student project outcomes. Moreover, the students traveled to TCM’s Atlanta headquarters and presented their projects directly to TCM executives. Students gained first-hand experience in supporting high-profile programming initiatives for a major entertainment media network.

Brittany Bryant, Leah Gabbard, Brayton Green, Liam Higgins, Jessica Matthews, Dara Metcalfe, Anthony Miglieri, Taylor Mullins

Faculty Mentor: Richard Edward, Strategic Learning
Community Partner: Turner Classic Movies
The Maring-Hunt Library Community Garden Master Plan, its improvement and expansion, and a series of Garden Pavilions and Nature Play Pockets were designed and developed as useful spaces to address food insecurity in a USDA-designated food desert, cultivate community interaction and social activity, and provide learning opportunities for the Southview Elementary School students, Maring-Hunt Library patrons, and neighborhood families. The Maring-Hunt Library Community Garden Master Plan includes a trio of pavilions developed around a large community garden overseen by the Library. 1. The Gateway to Growing Gardeners’ Pavilion, which provides shade, seating, tool storage, and accessible garden beds, and a sand and water Nature Play Pocket was designed and built by students in a spring and summer 2017 immersive learning studio. 2. A Market Pavilion to house a community market and an outdoor learning space for the Great Achievers is currently under construction by students in a fall semester 2017 community build studio. A small separate outdoor kitchen and food preparation demonstration area is also a part of this project. 3. A fenced-in Educational Pavilion and children’s garden will be developed and used by Southview Elementary students in the future. This expansive greenspace with its pavilions, gardens, paths, bio-swale, and nature play pockets is being developed as an anchor in the Thomas Park/Avondale and South Central Neighborhoods, and will turn an eyesore, a dilapidated exercise track and athletic field alongside an active railway line, into an asset motivating children and families to get outdoors and learn and engage in healthy activity together.

Zach Benge, Drew Fairchild, Rosie Hamilton, Adam Horkay, Tyler Kennedy, Daniel Klemen, Scott Manners, Austin Obermeyer, Zach Rooker, Riley Sandel, Benjamin Sass, Landon Underwood, Payne Wagner, Drew Weyer

Faculty Mentor: Pam Harwood, Department of Architecture
Community Partners: Maring-Hunt Library, Thomas Park/Avondale Neighborhood Association
In this partnership with Muncie Community Schools, participants engaged with elementary students and teachers at East Washington Academy to develop knowledge and skills for fostering children’s learning, with special attention to mathematics. Through the range of experiences, participants acquired the disposition to critically reflect on the larger social, political and cultural forces at work in American culture, the K-12 educational system as nested within it and locate themselves as culturally situated emergent educators. Participants also worked with parents to develop an understanding of the cultural contexts of children’s lives and encouraged building awareness of children’s mathematical learning experiences in the home and family life. Collaborative, interdisciplinary learning experiences for participants included working with the teachers to provide supplementary mathematics instruction for small groups of children, designing and implementing lessons for whole-class instruction, and designing and implementing a Family Math Night as the primary setting in which to engage parents and children in doing mathematics together! Students also supported a blog (https://preparingtoteachk12.wordpress.com/) aimed at building community and camaraderie among teacher candidates at a challenging time for the profession.

Mathematics in Cultural Contexts 2018: Emergent Professionals Today and Responsible Educators Tomorrow

Emily Alig, Sydney Amstutz, Lilia Arroyo, Megan Chalfant, Erin Halioris, Ayrrana Hickman, Logan Inman, Bryttani Knight, Josie Valentine

Faculty Mentors: Sheron Fraser-Burgess, Department of Educational Studies; Sheryl Stump, Department of Mathematical Sciences; Lynette Varner, Department of Elementary Education

Community Partner: East Washington Academy
Sustainability reporting is an organizational strategy for making continuous improvements toward sustainable development goals. Thousands of multinational companies use the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards to publicly disclose their management approach and performance as it relates to environmental, social, and economic indicators. For seven years, teams of students have collaborated with Ball State’s Council on the Environment and a host of administrators, faculty, and community members to prepare sustainability reports for Ball State. The current student team prepared the 2016 Sustainability Report for Ball State and, in doing so, became well-versed in the process, metrics, and GRI standards.

Sarah Coston, Alyssa Erickson, Bethany Gordon, Jeremy Jacques, Kami Kleefisch, David Kosciulek, Audrey Loomis, Samuel Matel, Lindsey Miles, Garrett Mullins, Bre Myers, Amy Whitehead

Faculty Mentor: Annette Rose, Department of Family, Consumer, and Technology Education
Community Partners: Ball State University, Center for Energy/Research/Education Services (CERES)
Nutrition Grows on You! A Nutrition Demonstration Project for 4th Grade Students in Muncie Public Schools

This project was a collaboration between Chef Christopher Polo of the Muncie Community Schools (MCS), Chartwells Dining Service K-12, and the senior dietetics students in NUTR 456 Community Nutrition. The students worked with Chef Polo to design, develop, and implement interactive nutrition education lessons, food demonstrations, and taste testings for all fourth-grade students in MCS. The students learned first-hand from Chef Polo about the food habits and behaviors of children. Chef Polo worked with the students to identify healthy recipes for taste-testing and simple healthy recipes the children can make. This collaborative project introduced the students to a potential career in school foodservice while concomitantly providing them with a hands-on nutrition education experience. Similarly, the fourth graders were introduced to a variety of new foods, learned basic nutrition information, and practiced basic cooking skills which will help them and their families eat healthier.

Faculty Mentor: Carol Friesen, Department of Nutrition and Health Science
Community Partner: Muncie Community Schools

Philosophy, which encourages students to ask questions, look at familiar things in new ways, listen to one another, and examine their own beliefs and positions, is a fantastic way for high school students to learn about themselves and the world around them. It also helps them prepare for their futures in a complex, ever-changing world. Students in this immersive learning class learned about best practices in philosophy education for high school students, ran a high school philosophy club at Muncie Central High School, and planned and hosted an innovative philosophy conference held at Ball State University for high school students across the state.

Justin Archer, Hannah Bartholf, Elizabeth Bolinger, Daniel Klinestiver, Zoe Lawson, Michael Mares, Owen Miller, Luke Owens, Gabriel Shetterley, Lexi Wood

Faculty Mentor: Sarah Vitale, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Community Partner: Muncie Central High School
This immersive learning project covered professional practices for the visual artist from administration through creative production and final presentation involving 3 components: arts management, production and exhibition, and a professional toolkit. An interdisciplinary group of students worked with the Muncie Arts and Culture Council (MACC) to develop 3 projects: PlySpace Artist Residency, a new NEA funded artist in residence program; That One Film Festival, a 2-day event featuring experimental film from around the world, and the production of a community engaged public artwork.

Alexis Brooks, Danielle Campbell, Mallory Creekmur, Veronica DeBone, Mike Dorsey, Mikey Higgins, Megan Lange, James Lupkin, Rowan Mayo, Summer Moore, Megan Sutton

Faculty Mentors: Brent Cole & Maura Jasper, School of Art
Community Partner: Muncie Arts and Culture Council
There has been a surge in the number and variety of people who practice BDSM, especially since the release of the books and movies in the “50 Shades of Gray” series. As a result, there are a number of issues that now impact the kink community and mental health professionals who work with them. Kink Knowledgeable Program (KKP) was launched to provide professional training on atypical sexualities combined with the misinformation present in the therapeutic community. This project team collaborated with KKP to create two online courses for the KKP website. One course focused on Autism and BDSM and the other course focused on Disabilities and BDSM.
This immersive project involved a partnership with Kidz Korner Child Care Center in downtown Muncie, IN. The project team created and administered a parent/family needs survey. They also designed and printed a logo for the center. The team promoted and fostered collaborative partnerships between the center and local agencies. They also developed and implemented a professional development session for the staff at Kidz Korner Child Care Center. The ultimate goal of this project was to establish and maintain community connections while strengthening parent/family relationships between the school/daycare center and homes.

Faculty Mentor: Stacey Allred, Department of Elementary Education
Community Partner: Kidz Korner Child Care Center
This immersive learning project is called “Race to Zero” and is run through the Arch 501, 632, and 633 courses with assistance from construction management (CM) students working in an independent study course. Race to Zero is an annual student design competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The aim of the competition is to “provide future architects, engineers, construction managers, and entrepreneurs with the skills and experience to fully integrate building science into ultra-efficient buildings.” The competition asks students to create interdisciplinary teams to design a net-zero energy to a very high level of detail. The competition also encourages teams to work with community and industry partners to help guide the projects and give them real-world relevance. For 2018, we have two teams submitting proposals. One team worked on a suburban single family home in connection with community partner Cedar Street Builders of Zionsville. The hypothetical home was designed to be a showcase for green design and to show how a home can address the needs of occupants at different stages of their lives: children, adults, families, elderly, etc. The other team worked on an urban single family home in conjunction with community partners ecoREHAB of Muncie and the Muncie Mission. The home is a retrofit of an abandoned home that will serve as transitional housing for men transitioning out of homelessness and will be owned by the Muncie Mission. This project has been funded and will be constructed in the future.

Emily Apple, Hunter Crews, Michale Delong, Zachary Grapner, Alisha Heath, Zach Isaacs, Lindsey Kurucz, Lauren Maloney, Meghan Miller, Miranda Osborn, Grant Reed, Justin Sanford, Tony Shupe, Sabrina Senninger, Lindsey Stoy, Jimmy Toler, Katie Woodward

Faculty Mentors: Tom Collins & Walter Grondzik, Department of Architecture; Tarek Mahfouz & Sherif Attallah, Department of Construction Management

Community Partners: Cedar Street Builders, ecoREHAB of Muncie, Muncie Mission
Reber Woods is a diverse, wetland area that was recently acquired by Muncie-based Non-profit Organization Red Tail Land Conservancy. With the help of nine Ball State Students, Red Tail and students a part of the sustainability immersive learning course are working together to create a nature preserve on the property to ensure the healthy development of the ecosystems that are located there. Ideas for a –net-zero energy, sustainable structure –that would serve as a headquarters for the organization have been mapped out by architect and urban planning students. Nature trails and educational material about the wildlife on the land are being considered by biology students. Additionally, community outreach programs hosted by the marketing and journalism students are also underway. These parts are coming together to create a space for the Muncie Community to learn about sustainability, wetlands, various tree species, and several types of wildlife that are native to the area.

Holly Biller, Tyler Freudenthal, April Hart, Breanna Heath, Andrea McDermott, Paul Nicholas, Noah Porter, Ki Shirey, Lena Spotts

Faculty Mentor: Kevin Kenyon, Sustainability Minor Program
Community Partner: Red Tail Land Conservancy
Rehabilitating Houses

In this immersive learning course, the interdisciplinary team of students worked on rehabilitating existing houses for Habitat for Humanity. The class involved the design and preconstruction phases before construction began. Each project started with creating measured existing drawings, determining the scope of work needed, making recommendations for revisions, and then creating plans for the remodeling of the houses. They worked with representatives from Habitat throughout the process to ensure their designs meet the needs of their clients.

Justin Baker, Schyler Cerqueira, William Hack, Meaghan Heinrich, Kelsie Kittredge, Logan Melton, Erin Powichroski, Colten Showalter, Joseph St. Clair, Vanessa Wigent

Faculty Mentor: Janet Fick, Department of Construction Management and Interior Design
Community Partner: Greater Muncie Habitat for Humanity
Indiana is an agricultural state with the value of agricultural products sold in excess of $11 billion. Then, why do we still have hungry people in our backyard? Like many Rust Belt regions of the country, East Central Indiana (ECI) experienced a slower recovery from the 2008 economic downturn. Once a reliable choice, careers in car and industrial manufacturing have been severely limited. ECI counties show some of Indiana’s highest poverty and unemployment levels. As well, nearly 17% of ECI residents and 25% of children are food insecure. How can we help local farmers expand their share in the food market AND help feed hungry people in our communities? These issues are complex and multi-faceted. In this project, students explored the issues surrounding food insecurity and methods of developing sustainable food systems in Muncie and East Central Indiana. We explored ways to best serve our community and empower a resilient and sustainable food-based economic engine that has the capacity to provide fresh, healthy foods to its residents.


Faculty Mentor: Josh Gruver, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management
Community Partners: Muncie Food Hub Partnership, Edible Muncie, Urban Garden Coalition, Ball State Student Farm
The survey of clients in the surrounding eight counties has been requested by Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana. The goal is to provide data similar to that from a now-discontinued survey conducted by Feeding America. The Feeding America survey was conducted every four (4) years and the data it provided was used by Second Harvest for purposes such as (but not necessarily limited to) promotional outreach material and grant proposals. It is hoped that this proposed survey will fill the information void left and bring new communities stories to light.


Faculty Mentor: Melinda Messineo, Department of Sociology
Community Partner: Second Harvest Food Bank
Solar Start Project

Students engaged in the design and procurement process needed to install a 5 KW solar panel system and then monitored and analyzed the system’s performance after installation was complete. This partnership, which involves the Islamic Center of Muncie and an electrical contractor, will capitalize on increasing awareness for renewable solar energy on campus and in the Muncie community.

Kyle Alcaraz, Jeff Gasper, Grant King, David Kosciulek, Hanbit Lee, Thomas Steussy-Williams, Brandon Watson, Darian Wiley, Ross Williams, Kevin Zielinski

Faculty Mentor: Sherif Attallah, Department of Construction Management and Interior Design
Community Partner: Islamic Center of Muncie
The TEAM 2 project implemented a reading intervention program with at-risk youth at the Youth Opportunity Center (YOC), a residential treatment facility in Muncie. Students in this project studied psychological, environmental and cultural factors that contribute to reading difficulties, and developed skills in applying proven reading strategies. This project is tied to an education-focused research study related to youth in the juvenile court system at YOC. Working collaboratively with the YOC, students spent the semester making a real difference in the lives of young people. This project started in summer 2016 and has been funded by the National Institute of Justice.

Rayven Brackeen, Simone Courtright, Sarah Hapner, Natalie Kitchin

Faculty Mentors: Ruth Jefferson, Department of Special Education; Janay Sander, Department of Educational Psychology
Community Partner: Youth Opportunity Center
The Indiana Office of Tourism Development (IOTD) has partnered with Ball State University to use high-definition video technology to highlight local and regional tourism in the state of Indiana. This project is part of a continuing grant from IOTD. The students produced a series of “profile” videos of locations, regions and tourist destinations of key places in the state of Indiana. This semester, the team focused on the Levi Coffin Museum, the Auburn/Duesenberg Museum and Koteewi Run Seasonal Slopes.

Holly Barnhart, Jacob Cannon, Kyla Chandler, Morgan Fuller, Michael Harris, Abby Peavey, Jeff Spott, Zoe Taylor, Ben Tison

Faculty Mentor: Chris Flook, Department of Telecommunications
Community Partner: Indiana Office of Tourism and Development
Immersive Learning offers students the opportunity to connect with communities, businesses, and state agencies to collaboratively develop solutions to community challenges.

The information presented here, correct at the time of publication, is subject to change. Ball State University practices equal opportunity in education and employment and is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community.

www.bsu.edu/immersive