

THE EPIC PROGRAM

Skills for College. Skills for Career. Skills for Life.

The EPIC Program improves the core experience and creates long-term project-based opportunities for GSU students.

The EPIC Program has two unique features:

Course Connections

- EPIC expands on GSU's traditional FLC structure, in which cohorts of 25 freshmen share a set of university-required courses in their first semester
- Instructors collaborate across multiple disciplines to connect the content, skills, and objectives across their courses
- Students take interdisciplinary courses to build upon their understanding

Project Labs or Skills Workshops

- EPIC undergraduate and graduate students and faculty collaborate on multi-year, public-facing programs
- EPIC students join one Project Lab to develop and apply 21st century skills such as digital literacy, problem solving, and teamwork **or** participate in curated workshops designed to enhance the skills needed for college, career, and life
- EPIC students build upon their experiences by participating in Labs over multiple semesters while continuing to earn course credit
- EPIC Project Labs are in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and STEM

WHAT IS EPIC?

EPIC enhances the freshmen experience

- Freshmen learn to build connections across coursework through their Perspectives (PERS) course content
- Project Labs connect students to faculty led, existing GSU programs and research to build interdisciplinary, academic community
- Project Lab outcomes allow students to apply classroom-based knowledge and skills in local Atlanta communities
- Skills workshops are designed to build more developed, generalized skill sets and dispositions shown to contribute to their academic and economic success, as well as their personal well-being
- Freshmen begin building a portfolio of work demonstrating career-based skills

EPIC extends beyond the FLC and freshman year

- Provides opportunities for students to continue work in Project Labs beyond their first semester
- Integrates upper-level undergraduate and graduate students to teach and take on leadership roles in Project Labs spanning over years
- Connects faculty with undergraduates potentially sooner, more often, and in more meaningful ways
- Motivates students to seek skill development opportunities aimed at career readiness

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WHAT IS EPIC?

Experiential - *Learn by doing*

- Course Connections: In-class curriculum is enhanced through games, outside speakers, and activities.
- Project Labs: Students explore course concepts outside of class.

Project Based - *Learn by collaborating*

- Course Connections: Students apply knowledge from classes to real-world projects with impact.
- Project Labs: Students are assigned to work with their Perspectives classmates on a faculty-led project lab. Project Labs are centered on public-facing research and design. Students can choose to continue work in a Project Lab.

Interdisciplinary - *Learn by connecting*

- Course Connections: Students are given opportunities to understand ideas across classes and to apply knowledge and skills to their major.
- Project Labs: Students work with faculty, graduate students, and peers from different areas of interest and expertise and build networks with community groups, non-profits, and businesses.

Curriculum - *Learning while receiving credit*

- Course Connections: Connected courses are general education requirements that should inform learning in the major.
- Project Labs: Participation is part of the Perspectives Course grade for Freshman and upper classmen can receive Directed Readings or Capstone credit depending on their majors. Students build a portfolio.

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Virtual Exhibitions - In this Lab students will collaborate with the CDC museum to share the history of recent outbreaks with the public. In line with the CDC's goals, students will contribute to the development of the virtual exhibits and create educational resources. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) museum presents an important platform for science communication and public engagement that raises awareness around disease response. The increase in virtual exhibitions offers opportunity for the CDC museum to engage global 'visitors.' Students will both explore how to further enhance cross-cultural perspectives on disease in exhibition and how to craft science exhibitions that are accessible and engaging to diverse audiences.

FALL 2021 SKILLS WORKSHOP OR PERS PROJECT LAB COURSES

Skills Workshops - Within the PERS course students that do not participate in a Project Lab will participate in workshops, such as a four-part *Professional Branding* series (LinkedIn, Word, PowerPoint, and other tools), WordPress/HTML/CSS, Basics of Java/Python, or an Excel series. These workshops are designed to enhance various skills needed for college, career, and life.

Homelessness Resources - This lab is working on three projects. One project will collect information on work done at GSU, e.g. faculty research, staff engagement, etc. The second group will maintain a list of resources available to the homeless in the city of Atlanta. And a third group will help in the development of a course to be offered in the future on the economics of homelessness.

The Phoenix Project - This project recovered the material remains of Atlanta's past and established the most comprehensive archaeological collection of Atlanta's history. A collection resulting from archaeological investigations undertaken by GSU archaeologists when the MARTA rail lines were constructed. Students will be exposed to Atlanta's history and build basic research skills including archival research, data entry and database management, GIS, digital photography, 3D modeling, web-design, materials analyses and curation.

Pollitik - This lab is a new student-run political science project lab based on the approval poll and the concept of realpolitik. The central goal is to support and promote the work of the Executive Approval Project (EAP). The EAP is a long-standing group of scholars who collect and analyze the popularity of political leaders throughout the world. Students will work with the instructor and MA/PhD students to identify projects, assign tasks, and create a timeline for completion.

Mapping Atlanta - Faculty, the Library, and outside organizations work on public-facing mapping projects. Some of the projects include Rap Map, maps for a UNESCO World Heritage Civil Rights Trail proposal, and a CDC oral history map. Participating students will gain mapping and GIS skills, data collection and cleaning, and geospatial thinking.

EPIC FLC 1

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83027) TBA Asynchronous
MATH 1401 (CRN: 91728) TBA TBA
PSYC 1101 (CRN: 83480) MW 11:00-12:15
BIOL 1103K (CRN: 81662) MW 3:30-4:45 | T 2:00-3:50
GSU 1010 (CRN: 83461) W 12:30-1:45

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 2

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83029) TR-OS 8:00-9:15
MATH 1401 (CRN: 91715) MWF 9:20-10:30
PSYC 1101 (CRN: 83480) MW 11:00-12:15
BIOL 1103K (CRN: 90429) MW 3:30-4:45 | F 2:00-3:50
GSU 1010 (CRN: 92703) M 12:30-1:45

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 3

FLME 2700 (CRN: 84808) MW 8:00-9:15
PSYC 1101 (CRN: 92701) MW 11:00-12:15
BIOL 1103K (CRN: 81474) MW 3:30-4:45 | W 6:00-7:50
GSU 1010 (CRN: 90304) M 12:30-1:45

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 4

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83792) MW-OS 3:30-4:45
MATH 1001 (CRN: 94078) TR 3:45-5:00
HIST 2110 (CRN: 84591) Online TBA
GSU 1010 (CRN: 93131) M 12:30-1:45
POLS 1101 (CRN: 84581) Online TBA

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 5

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83052) MW 3:30-4:45
MATH 1401 (CRN: 92878) MWF 10:40-11:50
GSU 1010 (CRN: 84078) F 9:00-10:15
HIST 2110 (CRN: 84591) Online TBA
POLS 1101 (CRN: 84581) Online TBA

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 6

FLME 2700 (CRN: 91618) MW 8:00-9:15
PHIL 2010 (CRN: 83471) TR 12:45-2:00
SOC 1101 (CRN: 87090) MW 12:30-1:45
ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83663) TBA Asynchronous
GSU 1010 (CRN: 96061) M 11:00-12:15

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 7

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83592) MWF 8:00-8:50
HIST 2110 (CRN: 84591) Online TBA
POLS 1101 (CRN: 84581) Online TBA
SCOM 2050 (CRN: 90499) F 11:00-1:30
GSU 1010 (CRN: 96063) F 2:00-3:15

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 8

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83053) MW 3:30-4:45
HIST 2110 (CRN: 84591) Online TBA
POLS 1101 (CRN: 84581) Online TBA
GSU 1010 (CRN: 96060) M 11:00-12:15
ART 1301 (CRN: 95027) MW 2:00-3:15

Choose one PERS course from the table below

EPIC FLC 9

ENGL 1101 (CRN: 83051) MW 3:30-4:45
POLS 1101 (CRN: 93504) MW 9:30-10:45
SOC 1101 (CRN: 87090) MW 12:30-1:45
PHIL 2010 (CRN: 83471) TR 12:45-2:00
GSU 1010 (CRN: 83752) M 12:30-1:45

Choose one PERS course from the table below

PERS Courses

PERS 2003 (CRN: 96415) Tues (Face-to-Face) 12:45-2:25 - Mapping Atlanta Project Lab
PERS 200# (CRN: 96488) - Homelessness Resources Project Lab
PERS 2002 (CRN: 96417) W (Hybrid) 5:00-5:50 - The Phoenix Project Project Lab
PERS 2002 (CRN: 96418) TTh (Hybrid) 11:00-11:50 - Pollitik Project Lab
PERS 2002 (CRN: 96416) Wed (Hybrid) 2:30-1:20 - Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Virtual Exhibitions Project Lab

PERS 2003 (CRN: 92702) Mon (Hybrid) 10:00-10:50 - Experiencing the Stories of Atlanta Skills Workshop

PERS 2003 (CRN: 93407) Wed (Hybrid) 10:00-10:50 - Experiencing the Stories of Atlanta Skills Workshop